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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

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Monday, December 30, 2013

## Coming up to speed with MtDNA



I received my Full Sequence MtDNA results in December. Of course I had no matches at this level, because so few people have tested at this level. I saw a figure of about 18,000 testers at the full sequence level (this number is probably outdated by one year or so). I would need a large number of Nicaraguans testing to find a close match at his level.

I've done a lot of research on the L2a1, and specifically the F subclade. L Haplo is African and about 55,000 years old. I found out that subclade F is anywhere from 2,000 to 10,000 years old. As you can imagine this subclade could travel far and wide throughout Africa over thousands of years. It is widespread in Northern and Central Africa, and made its way into the Middle East. It is found in Saudi Arabia, and seems to have been spread into Europe by the Jews.

We do now have Nicaraguans testing with Family Tree DNA, and I hope to have a close match at some point.

My results mismatched the L2a1f

subclade by two mutations, and I have a number of extra mutations. It looks like this will lead to another subclade, which may eventually lead to a more specific location of origin for my ancestors.

I've been attending the new series of webinars presented by Family Tree DNA. The MtDNA session was so enlightening! I really had no idea how to read the results page. Example 2 shows the mutations, or differences, I have in my DNA from the Reference model used. These mutations occur

among individuals and are disseminated throughout a population through the generations. In earlier eras, when migration was less frequent, these mutations would be limited to individuals living in a small region. Example 2 shows a letter before and after the number.

Extra Mutations	395 T>G	522 T>A	522 T>G	C2652A	C6966T	C6967T	C11692T	C16192T	C16518T
Missing Mutations	A14566G	A16309G							

Example 1

HVR1 DIFFERENCES FROM RSRS			
A16129G	T16187C	C16192T	G16230A
C16294T	C16311T	G16390A	C16519T

Example 2



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The first letter represents the reference model, and the second represents our own difference from this reference. For example the first position here is A16129G, and we see the first letter is A and the last G . Position 16129 is A in the reference, and is G in my own sequence. These differences are used to place everyone into a Haplo group and subclades. A and G often shift positions, along with C and T.

I found another site besides Mitosearch and Sorenson to upload my full sequence results and compare; namely the [MtDNA Community.org](#). I found one match there. Not an exact match so we probably share an ancestors hundreds or thousands of years ago.

My best hope for a breakthrough with MtDNA would be a perfect match. I also hope we had a mutation in my line fairly recently, because that would mean we share an ancestor in the genealogical time frame.

Posted by [Annette](#) at [12:51 PM](#)    3 comments:    

Tuesday, December 3, 2013

# The short life of Isis Forgey

My Aunt Isis lived to be about 5 months old, but her short has always fascinated me. She was born while my Grandfather Charles Lynn Forgey served in the US Marines. My Grandfather married my Grandmother Graciela Del Castillo in Nicaragua on 10 January 1919. Since Isis died in Nicaragua it's been difficult getting any information about her death. I've tried for a decade writing to various record offices in Nicaragua in an effort to get any additional bits of information about my ancestors there. I generally got no response at all. I did get one response from a Catholic Priest stating he could not find any information.

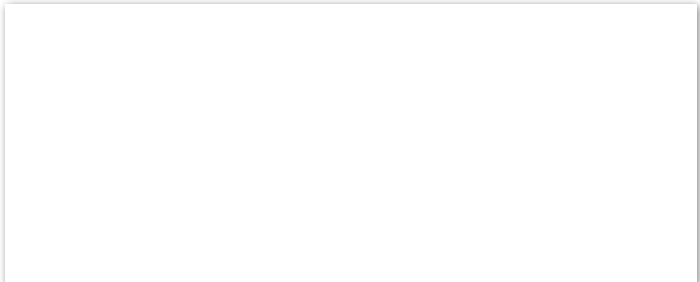
Thankfully the [vital records for Managua, Nicaragua](#) were filmed by the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. These records have been digitized and uploaded to [Familysearch](#) and are fully searchable (I am hoping they eventually film the records in Granada).

I've asked my mother and her siblings about their sister Isis, but they didn't know very much about her other than she died very young in Nicaragua. My mother was under the impression Isis had broken her neck? She may have come to this conclusion after looking at a photo of Isis taken after her death. Her rigid position after her death may have made it look like her neck was broken? The family seemed to avoid talking about Isis, probably not wanting to bring back the memory of a painful event. No one knew her date of birth or death.






















I've located 3 records mentioning Isis Forgey (she was named after her Grandmother Isis Browning Forgey). I now have her birth record, a 1920 US Census record, and a Death Record.

What I learned from these documents is:

1. Isis was born on 26 January 1920 in Managua, Nicaragua
2. Isis died on 3 May 1920 in Managua
3. Isis died of a Gastro intestinal infection, and not a broken neck



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# AK'S Genealogy Research

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Tuesday, April 22, 2014

## DNA News of the Week: Why Surname Project Admins. Drink

AncestryDNA my experience



YDNA surname project administrator sounds like a pleasant little hobby/project. It would be easy if everyone with the same surname actually matched when expected. Meaning everyone descended from the same ancestors actually matched. The first half dozen men who tested in our Forgey/Forgy & Forgie DNA project all did match one another. Even those not known to have descended from the same ancestors matched. Our luck ran out a few weeks ago when someone did not match anyone in the group and actually descended from a maternal line. I thought the odds would be against this happening again with our next test results. Unfortunately, it happened again. Our batch number finally came up, our kits were in the 562 weekly batch at FTDNA. Results were posted around 8:00 pm Friday night on Good Friday/ Black Friday. I was completely floored when one of our testers didn't match anyone else. We expected him to match either our line or the line of their supposed distant cousin. Their distant cousin didn't match anyone in our group either, they had tested outside our group a few years ago. This cousin tested as I1, better known as the Viking Haplo group. The rest of our group belongs to the I2, Scottish clade. Our last Forgy result Friday turned out to be R1. This is the most common haplo group in Europe. His STR signature is also very common with 761 perfect matches. So we had no match at all between the I1 and R1 cousin.

Friday we also got a result for our Forgety tester. It was thought this



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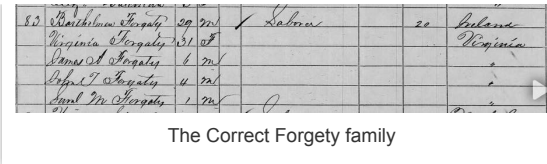
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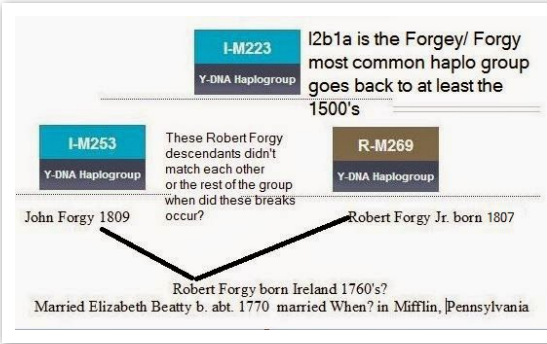
family had changed its name from Forgey to Forgety due to a family dispute. This turned out not to be the case with our tester testing positive for the Haplo R1. That is turning into a happy ending with this family now linking themselves to there correct line of Forgety or Forgaty. This tester didn't have a common STR signature; he only got 28 matches with 12 markers tested.



The Correct Forgety family

We have one more result coming in soon. This tester is in batch 563, so should not be far behind the others. This was a 37 marker test so it may take longer. Our previous tests actually took 6-7 weeks. The kits sat unprocessed for several weeks before being check in.

It would be great to have one confirmed Haplo group for every individual Forgey/ Forgy & Forgie line. Our phase 2 of testing hasn't not brought us any closer to this goal due to the NPE's (non paternal events). I think one of the two testers on the Robert Forgy and Elizabeth Beatty line must carry Robert's haplo based on the odds? I might be wrong and both families may have a break in the paternal line? With these two family representatives not matching we need a third descendant from a different child than these two to test. I'm hoping such a person turns up eventually. We need to do some reverse genealogy to find one.

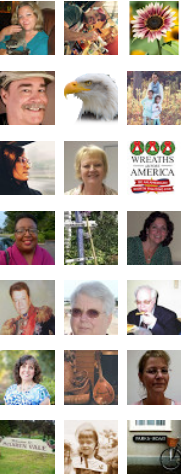


Last Tuesday I got my Ancestry.com results back. They came in just short of 3 weeks from the time Ancestry received them. This kit didn't sit at Ancestry waiting to be checked in so this test came back in half the time FTDNA took. I am finding the layout of the Ancestry DNA site to be outstanding with many great features. After the NPE's in our Y project I've been looking to my autosomal DNA results to verify my paper trails. I have had about 12 or so matches at FTDNA which have helped verify our family stories and paper trail. I'm finding even more cousins at Ancestry. The trees posted by my matches have been very helpful. Some people say you can't rely on these mostly unsourced trees. Well if you match the person and find a common ancestor on their tree I would say their tree is right. I have such unusual ancestry that it's easy for me to determine where I connect with most of my matches. One of my Grandmothers was Nicaraguan, and one of my Grandfathers was from Burgenland, Austria, a Great Grandmother was from County Galway Ireland, and a Great-Great Grandfather was from Quebec, Canada. One of my Grandfather's, on my maternal side, had purely early American lines. The only early American line on my father's side belonged to his Great-Grandmother. If a person's ancestors all come from the same general area it's much more difficult to determine how you connect with matches.

Hopefully, next week the new FTDNA Population Finder will have been unveiled. Possibly by this time next week we should have our next DNA Y result. I will be completely discouraged if this person doesn't match anyone. I may then give up Genealogy and take up bird watching?

Posted by Annette at 12:47 PM No comments:

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Sunday, April 13, 2014

# DNA News EXTRA

Forgey YDNA testing

**List of Forgey lines who have not DNA tested**

John Forgey of Pennsylvania ☐

Alexander Forgey Tennessee/Indiana ☐

William Forgey Pennsylvania ☐

Alexander Forgey Ohio ☐

John Forgey Ohio ☐

Gilbert Forgie Canada ☐

William Forgie Virginia ☐

William Forgey Mississippi ☐

James Forgey Tennessee ☐

Hugh Forgey Kentucky ☐

**List of Forgey lines that have tested**

John Forgey Tennessee ☒

Robert Bruce Forgey Missouri ☒

Andrew Forgey Indiana/ Iowa ☒

Jonathon Forgey South Carolina ☒

James Forgey Kentucky ☒

William Forgie Co. Down, Ireland/ Iowa ☒

William Forgey Iowa ☒

James Forgety Tennessee ☒

Archibald Forgey Virginia ☒

Here is where we stand with our DNA testing

The world of genetic genealogy is really the booming segment of genealogy now. The ethnic results presented in detail by [23andme](#) and [Ancestry.com](#) with visually appealing charts can be understood by everyone. Many people not interested in genealogy before have ordered these autosomal tests. Many will go no further, but some will become involved in more in depth research. So it is great news that [Family Tree DNA](#) will be offering a similar ethnic breakdown now by improving their Population Finder. This should increase interest among non genealogists in testing with them. I can't wait to see this improved Family Finder tool myself!

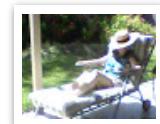
I've been wondering since I became involved with DNA testing and gotten some unexpected results how accurate the results given by all these genealogy related companies really were? Human error is always a possibility. I had never heard of someone getting a completely wrong result before. I've heard of very slightly off results. This week someone came forward with news of getting a completely different haplo group from [Family Tree DNA](#) which didn't match the results they got from [23andme](#). A number of people have tested with both [Family Tree DNA](#) and [23andme](#) so they have verified their Y and mtDNA Haplos. I don't think a majority of people test with more than one company. So we really don't know exactly what the error rate is? It's a good idea to test with more than one company to verify your haplo if yours turns out to be an unexpected result, which can't be explained using other sources. One member of our Forgey/Forgey & Forgie group tested his Y DNA with [Ancestry.com](#). His results matched what we got from [Family Tree DNA](#). My mtDNA result matched my cousins at [23andme](#).

A little over a week ago we received our first DNA result back from the 2nd Phase of our Forgey/Forgey & Forgie Y DNA testing. We got the results back exactly 21 days after the lab received his kit, on a Tuesday. Unfortunately, the results were useless because this person's surname came through a female line. I didn't explain how this test worked in enough detail to the tester, and they didn't know that fact would affect the results. In the future before I buy a test for someone I need to verify their descent from a strictly male line.

I'm hoping our next results come in this week which will be 21 days after they were received by the lab. The next two kits are in batch 562, and we have another one in 563. All of the results are going to be useful, but the first 2 have us on pins and needles. We have a Robert Forgey descendant who didn't match half dozen other testers. The options here are old NPE

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- [2015](#) (30)
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- [2013](#) (59)
- [2012](#) (76)
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## About Me



**Annette**

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## Feedjit



(non paternal event) and no blood relationship to us, or another Ferguson line took the name Forgy, but aren't blood relations to our Ferguson line, or the name Forgy came through a maternal line? This result is of great interest for those reasons. The other exciting result will be for the Forgey family. Are they blood relatives of our Forgey family as a family story suggests, or are they really descendants of an unrelated Foragy family in Virginia? Hopefully we will be put out of our misery soon?

I have an [Ancestry.com](#) test in progress right now. I've been trying to gage when it might come back. From other testers I've gleaned results come back at about 30 days after they receive the kit. So they generally come in before the expected date of 6 to 8 weeks, if they don't there is a problem. I find this is also true with [Family Tree DNA](#) with test results coming in 3 to 4 weeks after the lab gets the kits. My experience also has been, with Family Tree DNA, that they batch the kits on a Wednesday and the lab generally gets the kits a day before they are batched. It can take them weeks to batch a kit after they receive it in the mail. We'll see how long it takes for our results to come back? We will be in suspense until we see the new Family Finder Ethnic breakdowns and get our long waited DNA results!



The Autosomal test coverage for our surnames is nearly complete

Posted by [Annette](#) at [12:27 PM](#)    No comments:   

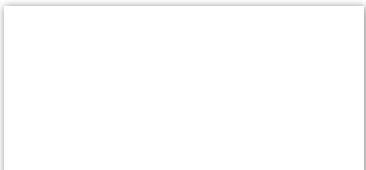
Saturday, March 29, 2014

# Awaiting DNA Results/Getting ready

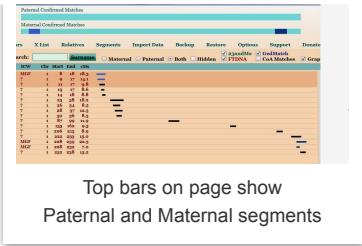


We had a moderate quake where I live here in Whittier, California last night (and many small ones since that one). I was thinking I hope the earth doesn't swallow me up before we get our latest round of DNA test results back. We have been given expected completion dates of early May for two kits, and late April for one. I expect to get the results before then, but it's hard to predict since I know FTDNA has its hands full with the new Big Y tests kits.

I've just tested with Ancestry.com and expect my results about the same time as the others. I have other distant cousins in the process of testing or planning to test. It's very difficult to keep track of so many results. My mom



and I tested with FTDNA and some cousins tested with 23andme. **Gedmatch** had been a wonderful tool for comparing with cousins who tested at Ancestry.com and 23andme. A new tool I've been using is **Genome Mate**, a program that groups matches by chromosome and allows you to visually see the length of the shared segments. There are many nice features in this program which allow you to analyze your matches, and keep notes for them. When you upload a gedcom file along with your browser CVS file from FTDNA the program compares your family surnames with those of your FTDNA matches. I'm currently adding more collateral family surnames to my family tree in order to compare as many names as possible with my matches. You can also mark each match according to which side of the family they are from. You can then see charts with maternal and paternal shared segments for each chromosome. The **Genome Mate** program also allows 23andme data uploads.



Something else I'm doing is combining family group sheets with test results so I can more easily remember where my matches fit in the scheme of things. The earth is still moving non stop here in Whittier. We hope the next shake up is only from our DNA test results?

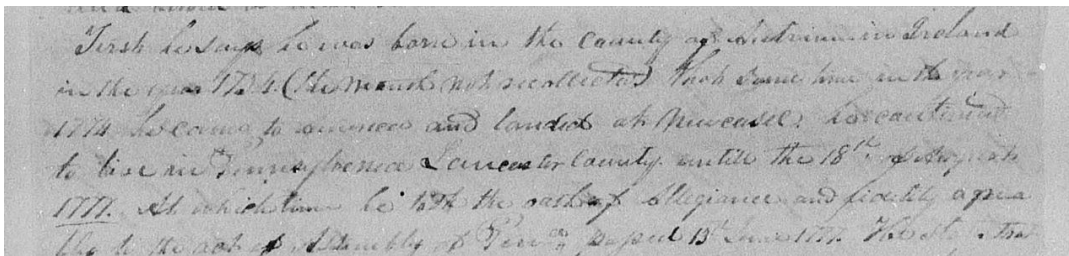
Children		Relative	ICW	Chr	Start	End
1	Maria Magdalena ROLLER b: 12 SEP 1791	W Rita Ann Wagers	?	43	79	97
2	John ROLLER b: 10 JUL 1793					
3	Elmer ROLLER b: 3 AUG 1795 in New Market, Shenandoah Co., VA	Relative	ICW	Chr	Start	End
4	Anna ROLLER b: 12 FEB 1797 in Lee County, Virginia	Sam Harvey	?	2	200	227
5	Jacob ROLLER b: 1799 in Shenandoah Co., VA	Sam Harvey	?	6	302	320
6	Sarah "Sally" ROLLER b: 8 NOV 1803 in Lee County, VA	Relative	ICW	Chr	Start	End
7	James ROLLER b: 1809 in Lee Co., VA	Roger Eugene Johnson	?	41	12	25
8	Mary Ann ROLLER b: 1810 in Lee County, VA	Relative	ICW	Chr	Start	End
9	Eliza ROLLER b: 12 DEC 1812 in Scott Co., VA	Charles Beaman	?	9	105	106
10	Lavinia ROLLER b: 1815	Charles Beaman	?	4	30	35
11	George W. ROLLER b: 1818 in Scott Co., VA					

Posted by Annette at 4:56 PM

No comments:

Sunday, March 16, 2014

# Two Hugh Forgeys?



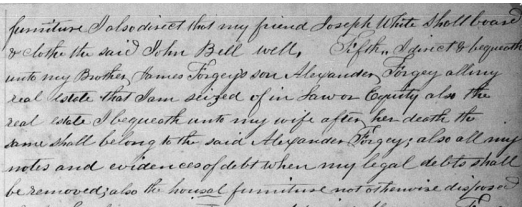
Hugh Forgey Pension Document states date of birth, and place, and his locations in America

I didn't realize we had two contemporary Hugh Forgeys wandering around Kentucky. An Alexander Forgey researcher, Paula Solar, shared some of her info with our Forgey/Forgey Facebook group. An obit for Alexander Forgey stated he was raised by his Uncle Hugh Forgey after his father died, which confirms this is not the same Hugh I had in mind. I was thinking his Uncle, or Grandfather, was Hugh Forgey of Bourbon County, KY. It can't be the same man because the Hugh Forgey I've always been familiar with lived and died in Bourbon County, KY where he left a will. This other Hugh died in Lawrence County, Ohio 10 years later. I've decided, armed with this new information, I need to reevaluate the evidence. I need to go back to Pennsylvania and Kentucky and reevaluate the Hugh Forgey records and decide which Hugh is being referred to, and where were these men living and when?



We do know the Bourbon County, KY Hugh was a Revolutionary War Veteran. We find detailed personal information for him in his pension. He stated in this pension application document that he was born in 1754 in Co. Antrim, Ireland. He also stated that he landed at the Port of New Castle, Delaware in 1774; from there he migrated to Lancaster, Pennsylvania where another Samuel Forgey had been living since the 1850's or 1860s. After the War we find this Hugh in Greenbrier, West Virginia. In 1787 he married Mary Dyer in Greenbrier. This would be a late first marriage for a male born in 1754. I have a feeling he was married before, and may have had at least a couple of children already? In 1794 we find him at his long time home in Bourbon County, KY. We know he is there by then because of his marriage in that year to Sally Everman. His wife Mary apparently died in childbirth.

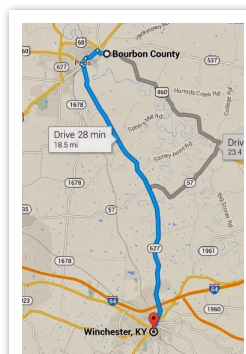
Moving on to the other Hugh Forgey, we first find him on an 1800 Tax list for Montgomery, Kentucky along with his brother James. We know his brother's name was James because this fact is stated in his will. James Forgey married Peggy Rogers in Winchester, Clark County, Kentucky in 1797.



Hugh Forgey's 1848 Lawrence County, OH will

Winchester is 18 miles from Bourbon County, Kentucky. It's assumed that Hugh Forgey was also in this same area in 1797. Hugh later migrated to Lawrence County, Ohio with his nephew Alexander Forgey, son of James, who he raised after his father's death. We know he was there by 1817 when Hugh married an Elizabeth Kneff. He was probably in Ohio in 1812, because there is a Hugh Forgey listed as a War of 1812 Veteran serving in an Ohio battalion.

So we have both Hughs living between 17 and 20 some miles away from each other in the early 19th Century. It's difficult to say whether they both settled in that part of Kentucky because they were relatives or it's just coincidence? If they are related could Hugh have been their father? Hugh had a young family with Sally Everman and they had sons named James and Hugh. Could Hugh have much older children with the same names? There was no law against that. That's a possibility. Another possibility would have been that Hugh was their uncle. We saw a previous instance an uncle raising Nephews. We have a John Forgey in Mason County, KY in 1800. Could he be another brother of theirs? He seemed to be either a recent immigrant based on a naturalization document or he was John Forgy of Cumberland County, PA's son?



We also have an Alexander Forgey in Washington County, Virginia who has no identified children. James and Alexander could be his sons? Alexander Forgey was born around 1740, while James and Hugh were born between 1770 and 1780.

About 200,000 immigrants came to America from Ireland before the Revolutionary War. For a few decades after the war another 100,000 Scots-Irish migrated from Ireland. Another possibility is Hugh and his brother James were part of the wave of immigration after the war, and had no close relationship to any of the earlier families? It doesn't look like that is the case. We don't find them living in Pennsylvania or landing at a port there. It was typical for immigrants to stop over for a brief time in Pennsylvania after arrival.

I looked again at the 1790 Census for Pennsylvania and considered who the Hugh Forgey of York County might have been. I forgot that this Hugh was probably not a Forgey at all, but instead was a Fergus. He appears on most tax lists for York as Hugh Fergus. We actually have a small number of Forgey immigrant families, probably less than a dozen. With just a

handful of immigrants it shouldn't be that enormous of a job to place them in proper family units? Land records may help to link some of these families? DNA is also an important tool because so few records survive. I'm hoping it will be useful in our case. So far all of the Forgey males who have tested are tightly related sharing a common ancestor sometime in the past 300 years. I'm hoping that our next round of testing will uncover more diversity so we can separate families into family into groups.



New Castle, Delaware the port where Hugh Forgey landed in 1774  
and popular port for Scots-Irish immigrants

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Posted by **Annette** at **1:21 PM**    No comments:    

Friday, February 21, 2014

## DNA Project How To

### Y DNA Colorized Chart



The most important first step in a DNA project is to set your goals. Randomly test individuals carrying the same surname, for instance, will not produce the targeted results needed if you are trying to answer particular questions about your ancestors.

The goals in our Forgey/ Forgý & Forgíe DNA project are as follows:

1. To identify all of the family branches using branch tags (branch specific marker mutations) or new unrelated lines through the discovery of families from different Haplo groups
2. To extend our pedigrees by connecting branches
3. To find a possible ancestral locations in the Old World

To move towards those ends it's necessary to locate as yet untested family branches, and find a male carrying the name to test for that branch. Since testing is expensive it's important



were sold, which immediately proved his colleague wrong with his prediction that maybe he would sell only few hundred or thousand kits over many years. After one year 100,000 kits were sold. About a decade later 1 million kits had been sold by DNA companies. In the one year period between 2013 and 2014 nearly 1 million more people have taken a DNA test. DNA testing has now become viral. He also explained that all humans share 99.9 percent of the same DNA. This is because mutations in DNA are very rare. We all descend from common ancestors in Africa 200,000 years ago. Migration began 60,000 years ago. Africans have accumulated the most mutations which points to Africa as the place of origin of mankind. As he said copy errors in DNA are rare but do happen at rate of about 100 per generation which represents a small fraction of our DNA. These collected errors allow us to identify our DNA cousins who share the same sequences. Spencer Wells wants us to spread the word about our experience with DNA to encourage others to test. I agree, the more testers we have the more we'll learn.

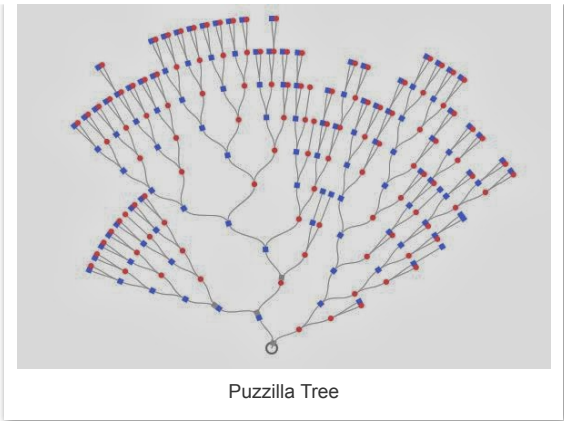
I also enjoyed the streaming session "Introduction to DNA for Genealogists". The overview of all the tests offered and companies offering them was interesting. I have not tested with Ancestry.com, and was I interested in the presenter's results. Ancestry groups matches according to their confidence level. At low confidence level the presenter has around 4000 matches. As he stated the high number of matches are overwhelming to deal with. The solution to this problem would be if everyone who tested posted a tree so it wouldn't be necessary to contact thousands of people to request their information. It really surprised me that with all his matches only about 4 people actually posted trees. This is a problem with all the testing companies. Few people post family trees. He talked about the changing nature of DNA test results, and how your current results may change as the science advances. He felt that the study of SNPs will lead to better matching in the future.

Here are some of the other tips and highlights:

1. During the **"FamilySearch Family Tree: What's New and What's Next"** presentation it was announced that there would be hints attached to names on your tree, like the Ancestry.com shaky leaves. Photo uploading will be made easier too.
2. **Puzzilla** is an app you can use with your Familysearch tree to see your terminal tree branches. I looked at my tree with this app and discovered that wrong additions were made to some of my lines.
3. I didn't know that you could dictate with your iPad instead of typing. Lisa Louise Cooke with her **"Become an iPad Power User"** sold me on an iPad which will likely be my next computer.
4. During Joshua Taylor's session **"Information Overload: Managing Online Searches and Their Results"** I was persuaded to try to use the search **Yippy** engine. It categorizes your searches which can be handy. He also said that when looking for a specific kind of document think about all the possible people or agencies that might have it and search accordingly.
5. **"5 Ways to Do Genealogy in Your Sleep"** session introduced me to some new strategies such as setting up an alert on Ebay for a family bible. One of my names is rare, Forgey, so I can just set up an alert for anything coming up on that name.
6. The **"Getting the Most Out of Ancestry.com"** presenter Christa Cowan had some great advice regarding searching that site. She said if your search results don't produce a possible match at the top of the match page continue to narrow your search. I will also start using the general location box in my searches.

As Christa Cowan's young nephew's observation in a cemetery confirms, we have more dead relatives than living ones, and we need all the help we can get to keep them all straight and discover more. Here is a link to videos of the streamed session :

<https://rootstech.org/about/videos/?id=3172896442001>



Posted by Annette at 4:31 PM No comments: 

Saturday, February 8, 2014

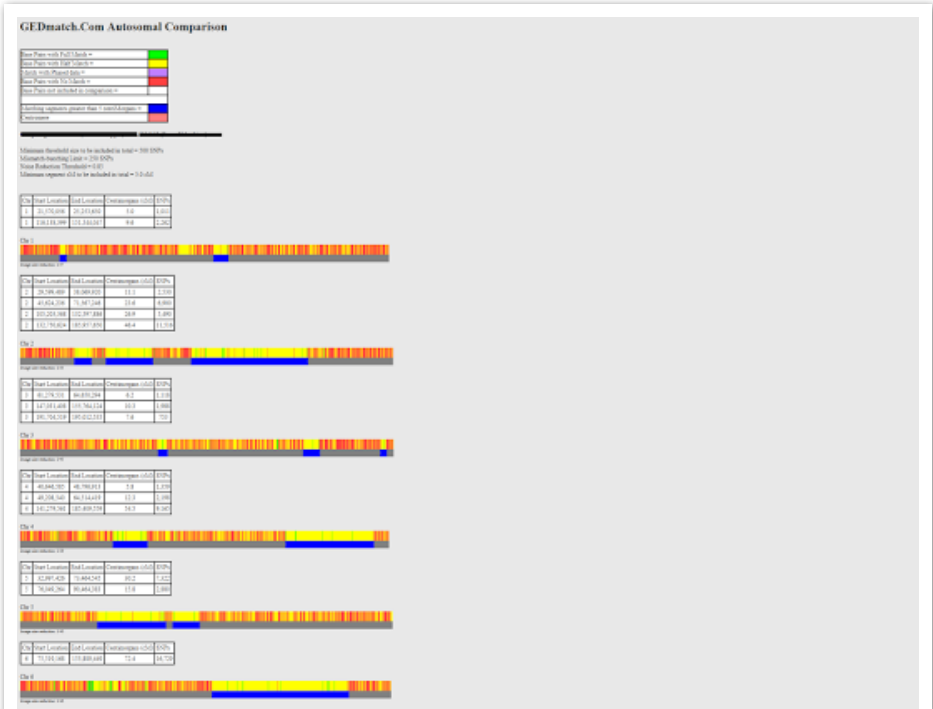
# atDNA: What Do Cousin Matches Look Like

The RootsTech 2014 presentation on DNA was very interesting, and I plan on watching it again when the video becomes available. I do think one point that should have been brought up wasn't. The presenter made it sound like all atDNA matches are related within the last 5 generations. This is also the genetic distance which the testing companies use as the cut off point when suggesting relationships. They don't suggest relationships past 5 generations. If you read the full explanation of possible relationships twenty generations is a possibility when looking at distant matches.

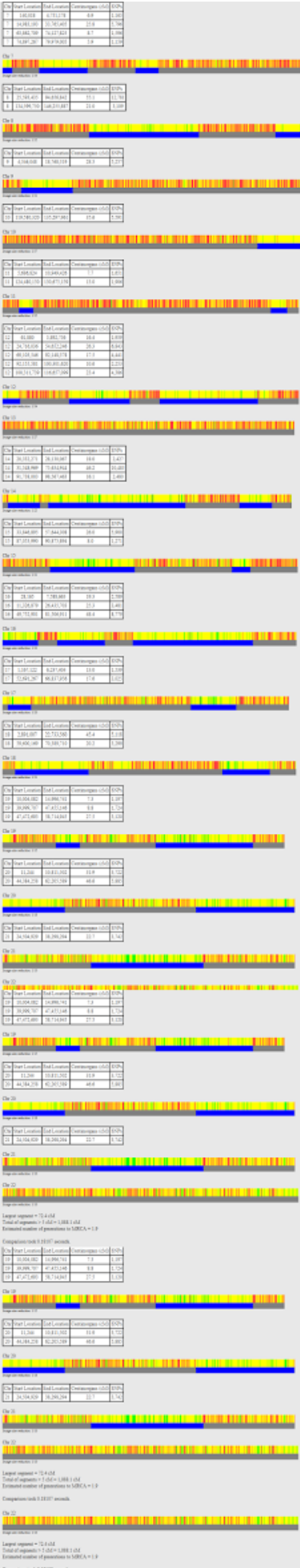
I decided to take a look at our atDNA matches that I've confirmed a shared ancestors with to see the patterns of inheritance for each generation. Most of these charts compare my mother and myself to various confirmed surname matches. We'll start by comparing myself with my first cousin:

## First Cousin Match

The Blue lines represent the DNA we match them on for each chromosome







I don't have any second cousin matches

Third Cousin Matches

These 3rd cousin matches vary by quite a bit. I share a great deal of DNA in common with my 3rd cousin, but my mother shares less DNA with her 3rd cousin matches. It could be her matches are 3rd cousin once removed?

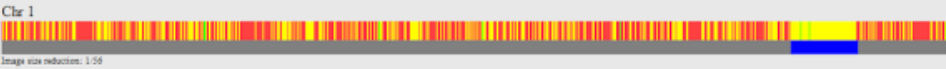
GEDmatch.Com Autosomal Comparison

Base Pairs with Full Match =	
Base Pairs with Half Match =	
Match with Phased data =	
Base Pairs with No Match =	
Base Pairs not included in comparison =	
Matching segments greater than 5 centiMorgans =	
Centromere	

Comparing Kit F249099 (Annette Kapple)

Minimum threshold size to be included in total = 500 SNPs  
Mismatch-bunching Limit = 250 SNPs  
Noise Reduction Threshold = 0.85  
Minimum segment cM to be included in total = 5.0 cM

Chr	Start Location	End Location	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs
1	213,441,806	228,950,986	14.7	3,916



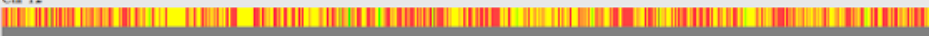
Chr	Start Location	End Location	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs
2	20,753,867	88,649,111	69.7	17,022
2	113,067,689	121,201,895	7.0	1,746

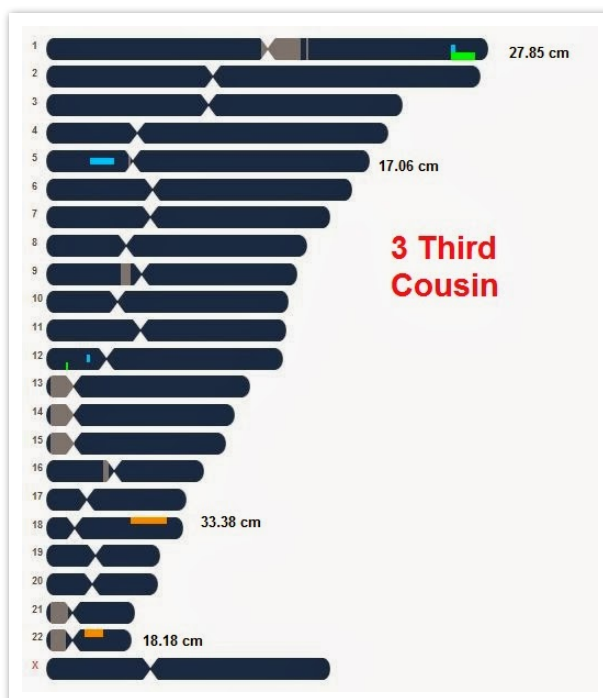


Chr	Start Location	End Location	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs
3	148,083,985	190,648,050	49.9	8,631



Chr	Start Location	End Location	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs
5	58,758,006	71,449,384	7.9	2,082

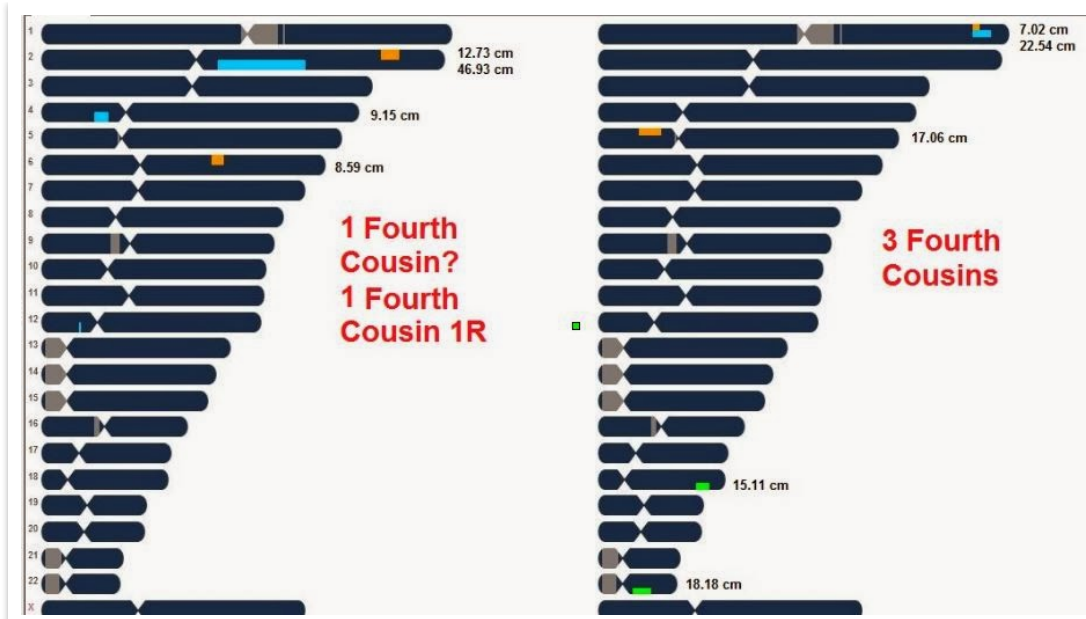




#### Fourth Cousin matches

On the left are my mother's fourth cousin matches, on the right are mine. My mother's large block share (the blue) may be a 4th cousin, while the orange match is definitely 4th cousin once removed.

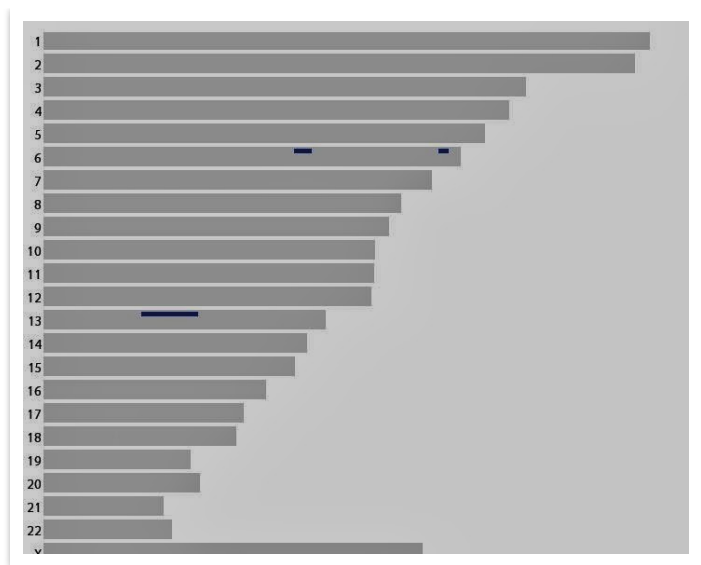




### Fifth Cousin Matches

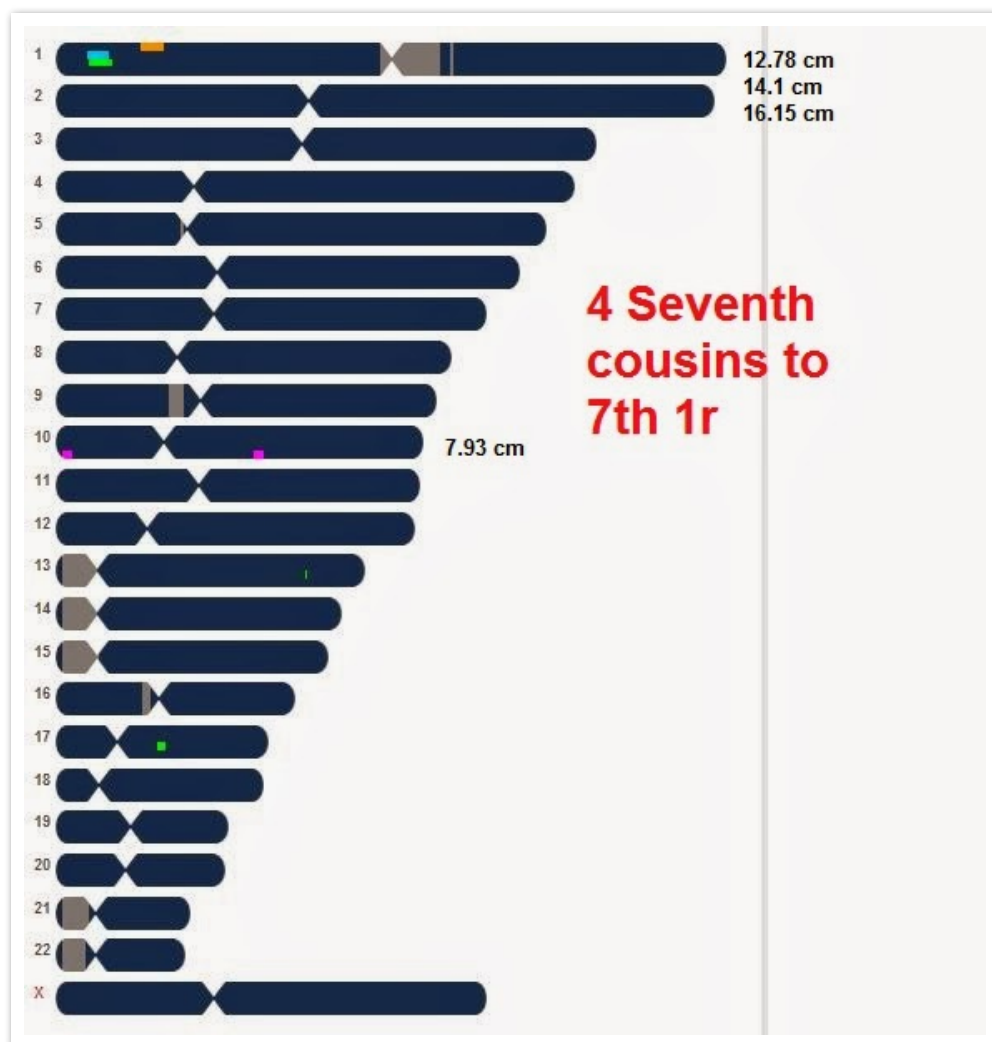
Here we see that a fifth cousin can still share good size blocks of DNA. This first is a comparison between my fifth cousin and I; the second is a comparison between my cousin, and our shared fifth cousin.





### Seventh Cousin matches

Here we see at the 7th cousin range we can still inherit blocks of atDNA. My mother has matches here with single IBD blocks ranging 7.93 to 16.15 cm.



### Tenth Cousin Match

This 10th cousin is one of my matches on my father's side. She still shares quite a bit of DNA with me at this distance. She has a long pedigree chart I've compared with and I can't find any other surnames that we have in common.



The conclusion I draw from this is that generally if you share large amounts of DNA with someone you are closely related. First cousins are very obvious matches. I don't have second cousin matches so I can't say how large the shares would be? By third cousin we see a greater variations in the amount of DNA shared. It's definitely difficult to differentiate cousin relationships after first cousin. It's still possible to share sizable blocks of DNA up to 10 generations. I have many matches who have large posted trees at Family Tree DNA and we can't find common ancestors leading me to believe that a majority of my matches are beyond the 5 generation cut off.

Posted by Annette at 3:56 PM No comments:

Tuesday, January 28, 2014

# Dividing People: The Forgey Slaves Hawkins County, TN

"themselves, but their children may be divided between  
 "the girls.  
 "Item 11. All the land that I own on this side of the

James Forgey will "their children may be divided"

Last Thursday I went the NGSQ study group which was in the virtual world of Second Life. We discussed an article we read about tracing the family of a former slaves. It got us talking about slavery and our families connections with it. We said we had curiosity about what happened to the slaves owned by family members after they were freed. Until the mid 1990's I had no idea any of my ancestors could have owned slaves. I had only known them to have lived in the Midwest, and didn't know they had first settled in the south. I remember picking up a book about Tennessee genealogy at our local library and seeing abstracts of family wills mentioning slaves and was blown away.

I've definitely ran across the Forgey former slaves while researching the family in Tennessee since several took the name Forgey after they were freed and did remain in the same area. I've been taking a closer look at these families this week. I had suspected that James Forgey of Hawkins County, TN might have fathered children with some of his slaves because several were described as Mulatto. I did find some evidence that this might be the case a few days ago.

This is some of the information I've found regarding slavery in my own branch of the Forgey family (James Forgey was the brother of my ancestor. Andrew Forgey was my direct ancestor).

The only mentions of the Forgey slaves I've run across are found in the family wills, and total numbers are found in tax lists.

1/3	72	73	Felkner, Jacob & Salley		
			adms of Lewis	150	
by 1809			Felkner, Henry	600	1
			Forgey, Hugh		1
740		8	Finley, William	145	
700			Finley, James (Doctor)	50	1
226			Finley, Samuel		1
78	1		Felkner, Phillip		1
100	1	4	Ferguson, Elijah		1
50		3	Forgey, Andrew Sr	400	1
00	1		Forgey, Andrew Jr		1
00	1	3	Finley, Reuben		1
23	1		Francisco, John	130	1
50	1		Forgey, James	663	1 2

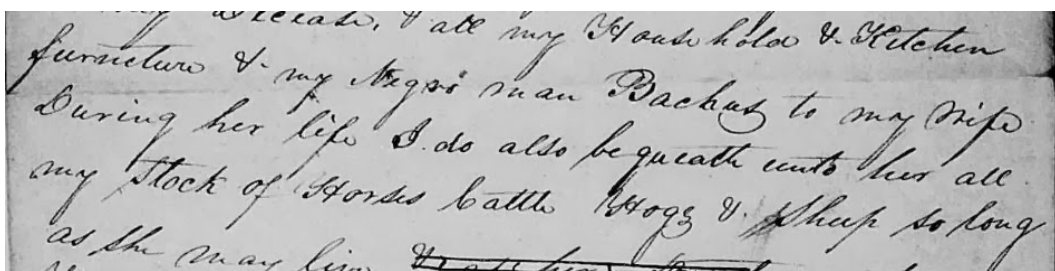
Above is the first reference to slaves in my branch of the Forgey family. It's the 1809 Taxlist for Hawkins County, TN. We see here rows representing acres of land owned, horses owned and slaves owned. Hugh Forgey and Andrew Forgey Jr. owned no slaves, but Andrew Forgey Sr. owned 1 slave and James Forgey owned 2.

Later in 1809 we find the name of Andrew Forgey's slave in his will. His name was Bacchus.

Item I do lend to my beloved wife Margeret Forgey  
 my Negro boy named Bacchus during her Natural  
 life, and after her Decease to be Equally Divided  
 between my two sons Andrew and John

We do find that Andrew Forgey Sr.'s wishes were followed and Bacchus remained in Andrew Forgey Jr.'s family until his death in 1831. Andrew Forgey Jr. wills him to his wife.



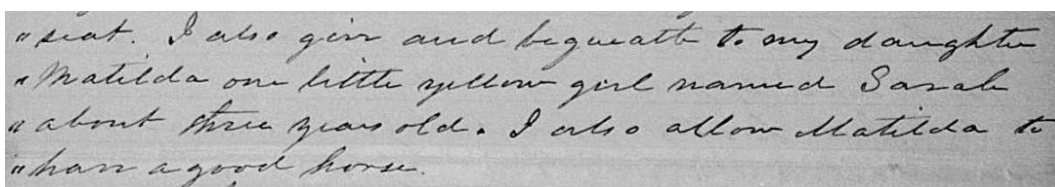


...all my House hold & Kitchen  
furniture & my Negro man Bacchus to my wife  
During her life I do also bequeath unto her all  
my Stock of Horses Cattle Hogs & Sheep so long  
as she may live

I have not found Bacchus on the 1870 Census he may have left the area or most likely was dead by then.

James Forgey Sr. owned 2 slaves in 1809. By his death in 1831 the number had grown. Only a few were identified by name.

A 3 year old was named in James Forgey's 1831 will. Her name was Sarah. She was willed to Matilda Forgey daughter of James. James also names an Alsy and Robert describing them as young in 1831. I have not been able to locate these people after freedom.



"I also give and bequeath to my daughter  
Matilda one little yellow girl named Sarah  
about three years old. I also allow Matilda to  
have a good horse.

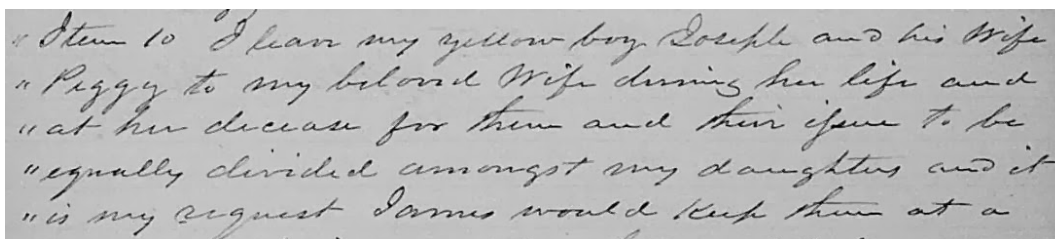
We can follow some of the Forgey slaves from enslavement to freedom.

We'll start with Joseph and wife Margaret (Peggy)

We first see this couple here in Andrew Forgey Sr.'s 1809 will

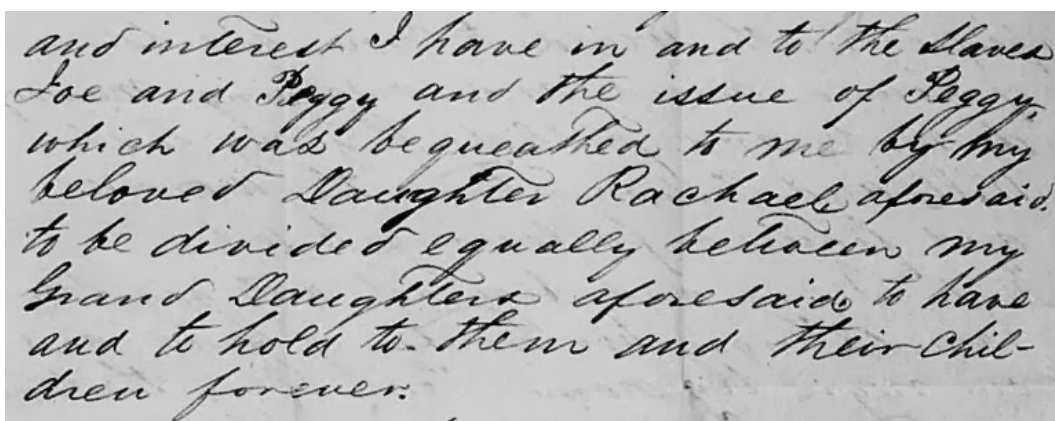
The callousness of the James Forgey family can be seen when you read these snippets.

They had no qualms about separating children from their parents.



"Item I leave my yellow boy Joseph and his wife  
Peggy to my beloved wife during her life and  
at her decease for them and their issue to be  
equally divided amongst my daughters and it  
is my request James would keep them at a

Here we have James Forgey's wife Margaret also dividing up Joseph and Margaret's family in her 1856 will Hawkins County, TN.



and interest I have in and to the Slaves  
Joe and Peggy and the issue of Peggy  
which was bequeathed to me by my  
beloved Daughter Rachael aforesaid  
to be divided equally between my  
Grand Daughters aforesaid to have  
and to hold to them and their Chil-  
dren forever.

It looks like Joseph Forgey didn't live to see freedom but his wife Peggy did. We find her living in Hawkins County, TN; listed on the 1870 and 1880 Census for Hawkins County, TN.

Name:	Peggy Forgey
Event Type:	Census
Event Date:	1880
Event Place:	Rogersville, Hawkins, Tennessee, United States
Gender:	Female
Age:	60
Marital Status:	Widowed
Occupation:	At Home
Race (Original):	MU
Ethnicity:	American
Relationship to Head of Household:	Mother
Birthplace:	Tennessee, United States
Birth Date:	1820
Spouse's Name:	
Spouse's Birthplace:	
Father's Name:	
Father's Birthplace:	Ireland
Mother's Name:	

We see that Peggy Forgey is listed as a mulatto. Her father's birthplace is given as Ireland. We know her master James Forgey was born in Ireland so it is very possible he is Peggy's father.

Next we can follow Thomas Forgey from slavery to freedom. James Forgey Sr. names Tom in his 1831 will.

*Coldwell and David Longmiller with the  
appurtenances, I also give and bequeath to my  
daughter Rachel a little yellow boy named Tom  
going on one year old. I also allow my daughter  
Rachel a good horse*

Rachel Forgey died before her mother Margaret Forgey. Rachel willed Tom to her mother Margaret. In 1856 Margaret mentions Tom in her will.

*First I give and bequeath unto my son  
James R. Forgey two tracts of land, and  
one negro boy named Tom, being the same  
tracts of land and negro, which were  
bequeathed to me by my beloved daughter  
Rachel; but my son James is to pay*

In 1870 and 1880 we find Thomas and wife Fary living in freedom with his family in Hawkins County, TN. He seems to have made a successful transition and was working as a blacksmith.

We see more Forgey slaves not named in the family wills in the Census. In 1850 James R. Forgey Jr. owns 21 slaves most being children. We do not have most of their names. Here are a few more I found in the Hawkins County, TN Census.

1870 Census Hawkins County, TN

Lou Forgey 1880 Census Hawkins County, TN

I believe one of these families relocated to Knox County, TN at one point and can be found there in the 1940 Census. After 1900 I no longer find Black Forgeys living in Hawkins County, TN.

Inhumanity is not confined to a single race or group of people. I've been reading a book about the Scots-Irish. I agree with the author that hard living conditions in lowland Scotland hardened the people which would later settle the south. They did not feel the pain of others. I believe James Forgey in particular was the sort of ruthless business person that really did not feel the pain of others. The business men involved in the slave trade in England, Spain, the Netherlands didn't have a conscience, but they didn't live with the slaves. The way that some families in the south lived with other human beings and didn't have the decency to free them is hard to fathom?

Here is partial list of Forgeys born into slavery

1. Joseph Forgey (Mulatto)
2. Peggy Forgey (Mulatto) Born about 1815 she claims her father was born in Ireland in 1880
3. Malvina Forgey-Harlan (Mulatto) born about 1839
4. Mary Forgey (Mulatto) born about 1854
5. Lou Forgey (Mulatto) born about 1845
6. App. Forgey (Black) born about 1863
7. Thomas Forgey (Black) Birth Year (Estimated): 1829-1830
8. Fary F Forgey (Black) Birth Year (Estimated): 1831-1832
9. Alice Forgey (Black) Birth Year (Estimated): 1852-1853



10. Martha Forgey (Black) Birth Year (Estimated): 1853-1854
11. Jinetta Forgey (Black) Birth Year (Estimated): 1855-1856
12. Dorcas Forgey (Black) Birth Year (Estimated): 1857-1858
13. Margaret Forgey (Black) Birth Year (Estimated): 1857-1858
14. Joseph Forgey (Black) Birth Year (Estimated): 1858-1859
15. Alsy Forgey (Black) Before 1834
16. Robert Forgey (Black) Before 1834
17. Sarah 1828

Posted by **Annette** at **3:34 PM**      7 comments: 

Friday, January 24, 2014

## Too Many Sales of One Plot of Land?

# General Index to REAL ESTATE CONVEYANCES, Knox County, Tenn., from Beginning to Dec 31, 1993. DIRECT

SPCLICALLY MADE BY REFERENCE TO VOLUME OF PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE CLERK OF THE COUNTY

GRANTEES									
GRANTEE	ADDRESS	DATE	RECORD	RECORD	RECORD	RECORD	RECORD	RECORD	RECORD
Bergery	High	Paul, Mary	W	2	1	14,370	1908	37	1779
Bergery	High	James Alexander	W	2	1	14,383	1908	36	1800
Bergery	High	Andrew	W	2	1	14,384	1908	36	1800
Bergery	High	William	W	2	1	14,385	1908	36	1800
Bergery	High	William	W	2	1	14,386	1908	36	1800
Bergery	High	William	W	2	1	14,387	1908	36	1800
Bergery	High	William	W	2	1	14,388	1908	36	1800
Bergery	High	William	W	2	1	14,389	1908	36	1800
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Bergery	High	William	W	2	1	14,482	1908	36	1800
Bergery	High	William	W	2	1	14,483	1908	36	1800
Bergery	High	William	W	2	1	14,484	1908	36	1800
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Bergery	High	William	W	2	1	14,500	1908	36	1800
Bergery	High	William	W	2	1	14,501	1908	36	1800
Bergery	High	William	W	2	1	14,502	1908	36	1800
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Bergery	High	William	W	2	1	14,507	1908	36	1800
Bergery	High	William	W	2	1	14,508	1908	36	1800
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Bergery	High	William	W	2	1	14,533	1908	36	1800
Bergery	High	William	W	2	1	14,534	1908	36	1800
Bergery	High	William	W	2	1				

Forgey sales deeds Knox County, Tennessee from the County Index book

I've been examining the new databases at Ancestry, the ones resulting from their partnership with Familysearch, for anything new which might solve my brickwalls. I'm waiting for more Virginia databases in hopes of finding out more about Alexander Forgey and his family. I have nothing at all on Alexander's family, so far, other than documentation of a short marriage which evidently produced no children? So far I know Alexander was in Cumberland County, PA in the early 1770's, and migrated to Washington County, PA in the latter part of that decade.

I have not been able to locate any records for Alexander Forgey after 1807. I have not been able to locate a will or probate for him. I've looked at deeds to 1800, wills, and taxlists to 1804 for Washington County, VA.

I do believe Alexander Forgey of Knox County, TN might be a son of this older Alexander, of Washington County, VA, due to the fact Alexander, the younger of Knox County, TN was said to have been born in Virginia. Losing track of the older Alexander I wondered if he joined his possible son, and nieces and nephews, in Knox County TN?

I've been puzzled by the many land sales of Alexander Forgey, apparently selling the same piece of land on Flat Creek in Knox County, TN. Are we dealing with 2 different Alexander Forgeys selling different plots of 250 acres land or the same plot of land? I'm not seeing any clues that there were 2 different men in Knox County, TN such as references to a Junior and Senior. I never saw 2 Alexanders on the three Knox County, TN taxlists I've searched. The older Alexander would have aged out of the taxlists by 1804 I believe?

In 1802 an Alexander Forgey purchased 250 acres on Flat Creek from James Forgey. The younger Alexander Forgey would have been 23 and unmarried; which, would be a little unusual in my experience. That would have been a young age, for a single man to have had enough money to buy land. Could the elder Alexander have made the original purchase from James? If we had a Census records for 1800 or 1810 this might be cleared up?

Unfortunately no Census records for eastern Tennessee survive before 1830.



Here are the Alexander Forgey land transactions as recorded in the deed index for Knox County, TN (these deeds were not filmed by the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Hence, it took me a while to locate and get copies of them)  
We can see James Forgey's original land grant as the first transaction. This land was later split in half and sold to Alexander Forgey and Andrew Forgey (Andrew's relationship to Alexander is unknown).

Flat Creek Knox County, Tennessee

Forgey Land Purchases

Richard Freer to James Forkey

Warrant for 640 acres (actual grant was for 500 acres on Flat Creek)

Date of transaction: 10 July 1788

James Forgey

Land Grant #305 for 500 acres on Flat Creek

Book C Volume 1 page 49

Date of Deed: 27 Nov 1792

James Forgey to Alexander Forgey

250 acres on Flat Creek

Book L Volume 1 page 4

Date of Deed: 2 Dec 1802

James Forgey to Andrew Forgey

250 acres on Flat Creek

Book L Volume 1 page 16

Date of Deed: 2 Dec 1802

John Smyth to Alexander Forgey

250 acres Flat Creek

Book M Volume 1

Date of Deed: 1 Oct 1807

Samuel Cox to Alexander Forgey

Tract

Book N Volume 1 page 286

Date of Quit Claim: 9 Aug 1809

Here are all the sales of property by Alexander Forgey as recorded in the county deed books. All of the land transactions consist of 250 acres on Flat Creek in Knox County, TN. We only see one apparent buy back of 250 acres on Flat Creek. Alexander Forgey sold 250 acres to John Smyth in 1803 and buys it back from John Smith in 1807. An Alexander Forgey sells land to John Thompson in 1812. I don't see a deed for a repurchase from John Thompson which I expected because Alexander Forgey sells 250 on Flat Creek again in 1815 to Abner Parr. We know the 250 acres on Flat Creek sold to Abner Parr was from the James Forgey land grant because it's stated on the deed. We don't really know whether the 1803, 1807 or



uesday, January 14, 2014

	<b>Robert Ridge</b>	6
	b. abt. 1843	7
	p. Kentucky, United States	12
	m. abt. 1869	17
	p. Los Angeles, California	6
	b. 1879	6
	p. San Diego, California, United States	
	<b>Nancy Rife</b>	6
	b. 17 Apr 1833	6
	p. Upland, Texas, United States	
	b. 25 Jun 1897	6
	p. San Diego, California, United States	
	<b>Joseph William Rice</b>	6
	b. 1817	6
	p. 14 Sep 1844	6
	<b>Sarah Jane Ann Taylor</b>	6
	b. 4 Oct 1829	6
	d. 10 Jun 1915	6
	<b>Robert Riles Ridge</b>	28
	b. 21 Aug 1861	6
	p. Fallbrook, San Diego County, California	6
	p.	6
	b. 26 Jan 1872	6
	p. Orange County, California, USA	6
	<b>Gertrude Elanore "Maggie" Rowe</b>	21
	b. 4 Feb 1882	6
	p. Longmont, Lafayette Co, MO	6
	b. 20 Apr 1928	6
	p. San Diego, California, USA	6
	<b>Rosalie Ridge</b>	23
	b. May 1853	6
	p. Ray, Missouri, United States	6
	b. 23 Apr 1914	6
	p. Orange, California, United States	6
	<b>Robert</b>	24
	b. 1893	6
	p. Germany	6
	m.	6
	<b>Carl E. Rokers</b>	28
	b.	6

I began at 3:04 pm on Saturday January 11, 2014.

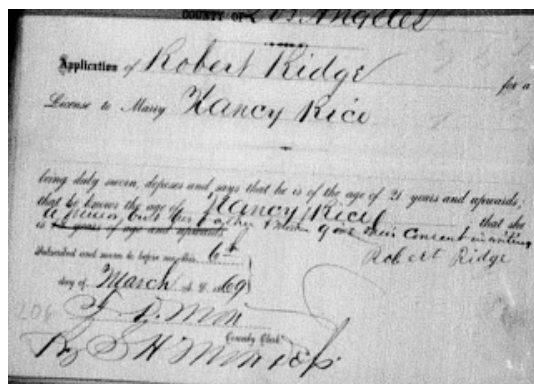
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Name:	<b>Rosalie June Ridge</b>
Birth Date:	19 Mar 1939
Gender:	Female
Mother's Maiden Name:	Kohrs
Birth County:	Orange

24/29



19th brickwalls. It really takes years to assemble and document a family tree.



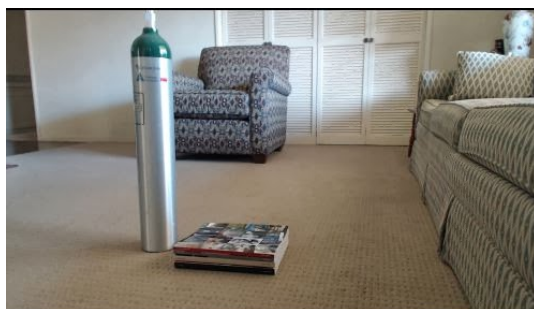
Posted by [Annette](#) at [2:32 PM](#)

No comments:



Friday, January 10, 2014

## Binders vs. Books



Here are the books I've printed seen near an oxygen tank. See the same tank and binders below to get a better idea of compactness the books.

I've been scanning the documents I've collect over the years and filed away in binders. I had them arranged by surnames, and placed the documents in page protectors. The page protectors made the binders very heavy. It's good exercise lugging these around. Since Lulu books are so inexpensive to publish I decided to print my important documents and information into 8 1/2 by 11 paperback books. So far I have 4 books published, and they are pretty comprehensive covering all of the important documents, stories, and data about my ancestors up to the current time.

I'm not going to throw the binders away. They still contain some material not in the books and they contain some original copies, and original documents. I am enjoying these books. I thumb through them from time to time, and love seeing both the documents and family photos without having to lug out heavy binders.

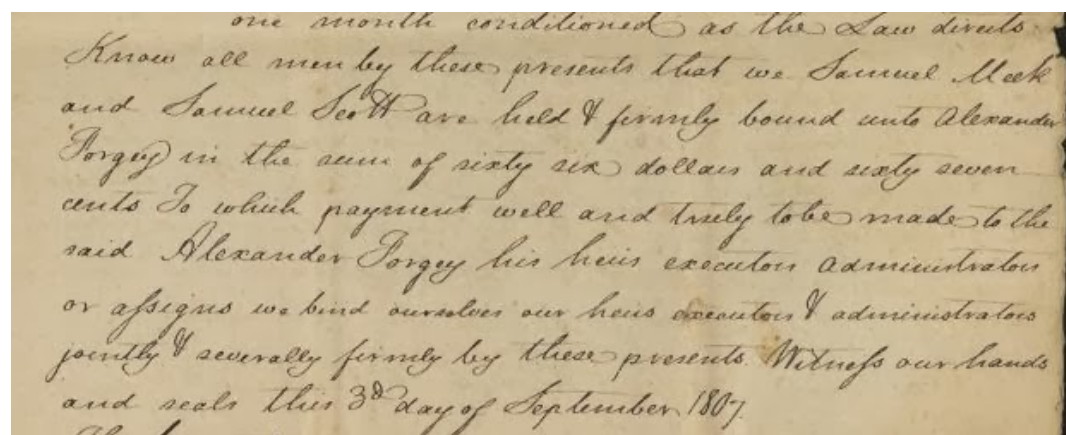


Posted by [Annette](#) at [3:12 PM](#)

No comments: 

Wednesday, January 1, 2014

## Genealogy Resolutions and Year in Review



The End of the Alexander Forgey paper trail is 1807, picking up from here in 2014

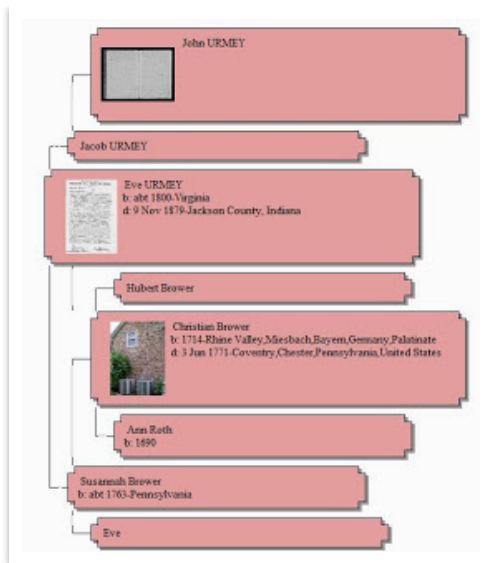
### Happy New Year 2014!

It's been such a fruitful year genealogy wise; it's hard to recall every single new find, there were so many.

1. My mother took the Family Finder autosomal test through MtDNA in August. This has led to finding more distant cousins. The best outcome of this is that she looks like a DNA match to a distant Forgey cousin, further cementing our relationship to the McMinn, Tennessee Forgeys.
2. My cousin Darryl Kapple took the Y DNA test and we now have a Haplo group of J2b. So we know our family had been in the Mediterranean area at some point.
3. I took the MtDNA full sequence test and found out I belong to the African Haplo L2a1F.
4. Some of my Forgey first cousins took the 23andme DNA test.



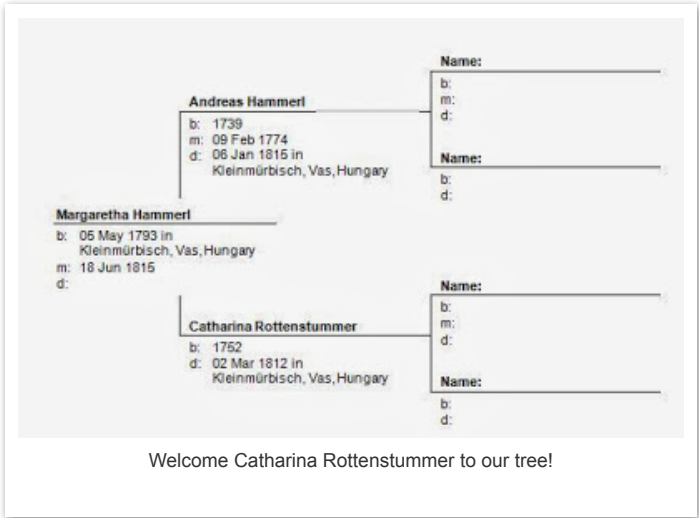
5. A third cousin, Sophia Preston, tested with 23andme and we discovered we share the maximum DNA that a third cousin is likely to share.
6. The Virginia Memory Chancery court project led to more indepth information about the Lewis Zirkle family, plus great stories! The same database contained a court case naming Benjamin Wray's children and grandchildren, which is conclusive proof we descend from him.
7. Another big breakthrough came from Ohio court records. Eve Urmei is named as a sister of John Urmei in his Ohio will. This John is son of Jacob Urmei and Susannah Brower. This is satisfactory proof, for me, that Eve is their daughter.
8. After adding Brower to the tree I was able to find some great information about this family and their origins in Germany. I've also collected up Urmei and Brower wills this year.
9. It looks like Edward Browning's wife was Elizabeth Drane.
10. This past week I've added another name to the Kapple tree, the name Rottenstummer. I did this with the help of a Kleinmurbisch, Austria cousin. Rottenstummer seems to have originated in the village of Kleinmurbisch.



#### My to do list for 2014

1. I think my number one priority this year is going to be trying to find out more about the mysterious Alexander Forgey of Washington County, Virginia. We don't know who his children are, and we don't know where or when he died? We lose all track of him in 1807.
2. While researching the Brower family I saw Brenneman given as Susannah Brower's mother Eve's maiden name. I can't confirm this. I would like some documentation for this?
3. I've been doing some Browning family research this year. I would like to find more documentation linking the Tennessee Brownings with Maryland. Also need to find documentation that Elizabeth Drane was Edward's wife.
4. I still don't have any photos of Frank Kappel and Mary Kurta, my great-grand parents, so I will be continuing to search for those.
5. Another carry over from previous years is finding the death information for Patrick Mullen and Mary Huvane who died in Ireland.
6. The partnership of Ancestry.com and Familysearch will produced more records to search, and I plan on using them as soon as they are available. When I don't know?
7. Another resolution from years past is learning more about my Nicaraguan ancestors. I did look into getting more information about them, but was disappointed to find out that the vital records office for Granada, Nicaragua doesn't respond to mailed in requests. You must request records in person. So finding out more on this line may mean a trip to Granada, Nicaragua?
8. I'll continue searching War of 1812 records as they come available.
9. I've upgraded my cousin Darryl Kapple's Y DNA test, and should get the results in a few weeks. We'll see if there as any matches at 37 markers?

In conclusion I've made some great headway, and confirmed the parentage of Eve Urmey and Elias Wray, this year. We've confirmed our paper trails using DNA. We've also added some great stories, so we have more than statistical information. I've compiled much of what we have so far into several books I've printed, through Lulu, this year. This included printing this blog into a book. If next year is as fruitful I will be very grateful!



Posted by Annette at 11:55 AM No comments:

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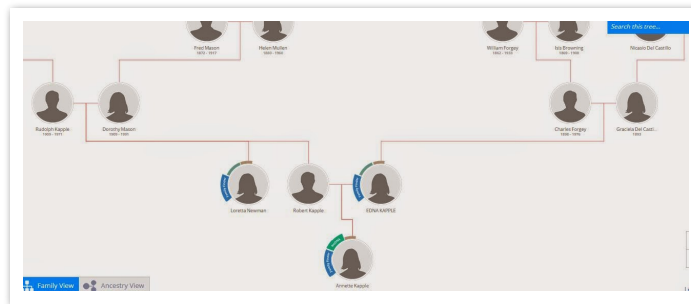
# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)[My Pedigree Charts](#)[Research Goals](#)

Wednesday, September 10, 2014

## DNA News: The Awkward New Tree At Family Tree DNA

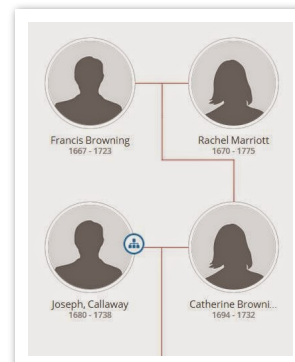


The new Family Tree DNA pedigree chart was unveiled yesterday. I attended the introductory webinar. Looking at the tree via the webinar I couldn't tell how difficult the tree was to navigate. After the webinar I tried it out immediately and had difficulty navigating my large tree. I had to do a great deal of screen dragging to see everyone. I tried making the tree smaller which helped, but when I got to the best view the names were too small. Also when I resized the tree I would sometimes lose my place completely. I didn't like the old tree much better. In the past I used the [Gedcom DNA](#) site to download gedcoms and I would view them in my family tree software, which provided me with the best pedigree chart for review. Apparently this feature has been disabled at the Gedcom website.

I hate the bottom up layout of the Family Tree pedigree charts. The top down old layout was a little better, but I prefer the left to right layout.

There are some positive features. I was able to search a match's tree for a surname, which helped me find it without having to drag the screen. I knew a match had the name Browning in their family tree, but the name was farther back in the tree than could be viewed with the old setup. The new tree displays more generations. A definite positive.

You can drag and drop matches on to your tree from a list on the left of the screen. I've attached my Mom and Aunt as matches on my tree. I was going to build out the tree and attach more matches, but I could not because all of my dozen or so



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**Arlene Eakle's  
Tennessee Blog**  
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Ancestors—Mostly  
Military Evidence  
Found in Early  
Land Claims  
1 week ago



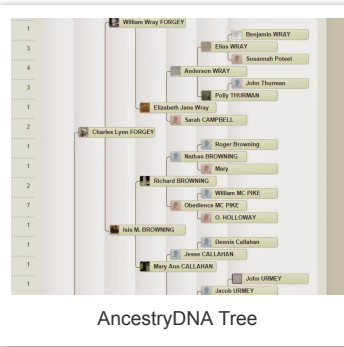
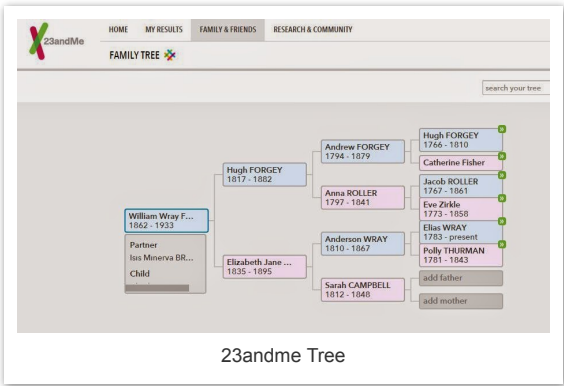
**Geneabloggers**  
Happy October  
2020  
Blogiversaries  
2 weeks ago

## Followers

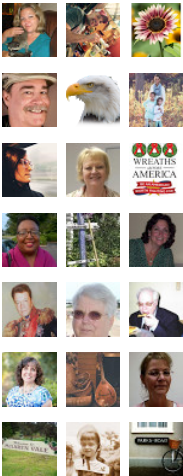
positive matches are out past the Family View generations, which can be displayed.

What I do miss regarding the old tree is a more compact screen view, and the ability to shine the mouse over a name to see more information without clicking on the name.

It would be great if Family Tree DNA could partner with one of the genealogy software companies to create an outstanding, user friendly tree. The best DNA related tree layout is at AncestryDNA. I would, however, like to see details when I shine my mouse over a name . The layout at 23andme is OK, but doesn't display enough generations on one screen. So my ideal tree would be the left to right layout, with the maxim number of generations on one screen, and the ability to see more detail when you shine your mouse over a name. I also prefer scrolling to dragging the screen.



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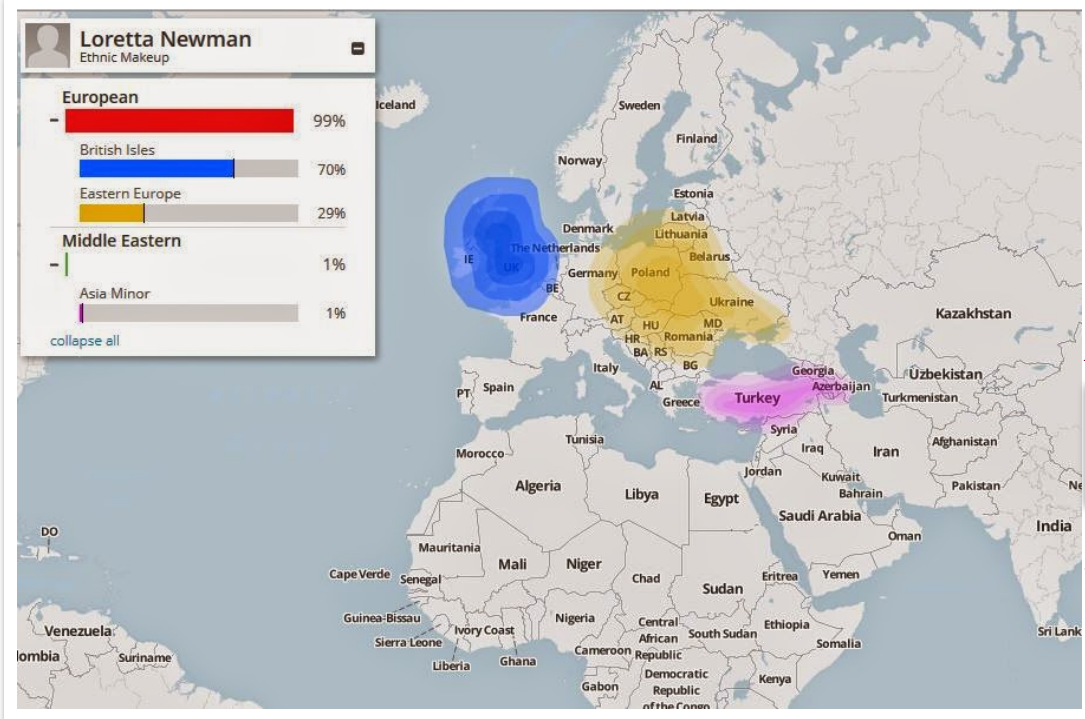
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  - Searching Irish Election Rolls/ Plus Irish 2019 El...
- October (1)
- September (2)
- August (1)
- July (1)
- June (2)
- May (1)
- April (1)
- March (2)
- February (1)
- January (1)

- 2019 (16)
- 2018 (22)
- 2017 (31)

Posted by [Annette](#) at [11:36 AM](#) 4 comments:

Tuesday, August 12, 2014

# DNA News: MyOrigins Grade



- ▶ 2016 (24)
- ▶ 2015 (30)
- ▶ 2014 (53)
- ▶ 2013 (59)
- ▶ 2012 (76)
- ▶ 2011 (94)

About Me



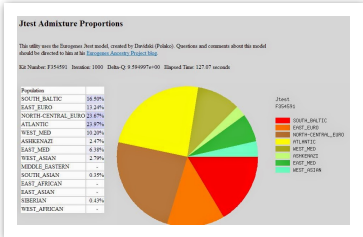
Annette  
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Feedjit

My Aunt's DNA test results came back August 7, which was a month after they received the kit back. She had 22 pages of matches. Around 220 matches. I haven't found any useful matches on the Owens line yet. She also shared DNA with the same Owens descendant at GEDmatch as me, but on a different chromosome. I'm hoping the Family Finder match database increases in size so we can find more relevant matches? You can't beat tools like the chromosome browser at Family Finder. I've been trying to get AncestryDNA matches to compare with me at GEDmatch. So far only one out of a dozen requests I've sent has been answered.

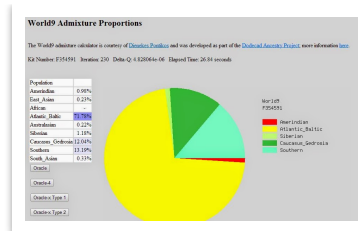
I was very interested how my Aunt's ethnic origin percentages would turn out. Based on my knowledge of our family origins I would give MyOrigins a B-. Her ethnic breakdown was 70% British Isles, 29 % Eastern European, and 1% Middle Eastern. My Aunt does have substantial British Isles ancestry but it definitely wouldn't be more than 50%, and certainly not the 70% she got from MyOrigins. Her mother's ancestry was around one quarter French Canadian, one quarter British/Scots Irish mix, and 50% Irish. . My Aunt should have gotten a little European Coastal plain like I did. My Aunt's father was born in Hungary (now Burgenland, Austria). It's highly unlikely that any of her father's ancestors came from the British Isles. I've never heard of a migration pattern in that direction. I've researched the Kapple family back to the 1700's and every line was from Austria or Hungary. The 29% Eastern European my Aunt got is at least closer than my result which were only around 8%. This still leaves 20% of her father's side out, considering she had to inherit 50% from her father. The 1% Middle Eastern supposedly goes back to Asia Minor. This result is plausible since my Kapple cousin's Y DNA haplo is J2b2. However MyOrigins gave me 2% Middle Eastern, African Asiatic, which would be from the line I share with my Aunt.

Diaspora Jewish is also missing from our results. It's more than likely that we do have some of this ancestry. AncestryDNA did pick up a trace. When I ran the J test at GEDmatch my Aunt had a result of around 2% Ashkenazi.



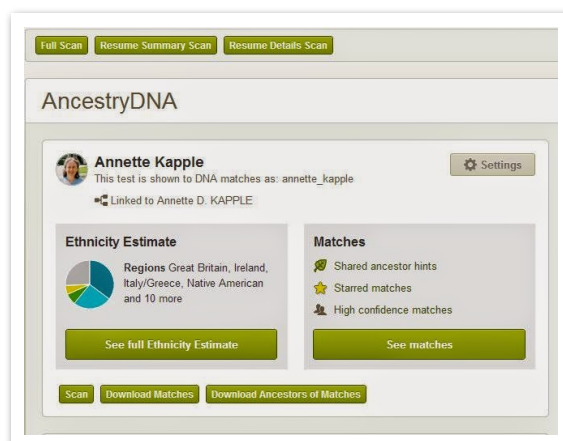
My Grandmother Kapple believed we had some Native American ancestry. MyOrigins didn't show any? However, trace amounts of 1% to 1 1/2 % were found at Gedmatch. I tend to think GED match is correct. I believe our Native American

MyOrigins is much more accurate than the old Family Finder ethnic predictions. However, the results are far from completely accurate, and tend to be inconsistent when comparing with family members, even taking into account the fact not all family members share the same DNA.



Posted by **Annette** at **12:17 PM**      No comments: 

# DNA News: Pushing The AncestryDNA Scan Across The Finish



The size of the files created was large. My file was 44mb and my Mom's was 38mb. I sorted the files by surname. This is such a time saver. I was now able to see all of the same surnames grouped together, and I could easily look for variant spellings. Now I didn't have to click twice to see my matches shared surname ancestors. I could see the exact lineage of my matches quickly.

I know Ancestry would prefer everyone access the DNA results strictly from their site. They don't have an incentive to make the process of reviewing the matches quick. The more time people spend at their site the better for them. Clearly the point of DNA testing for Ancestry is to encourage people to subscribe and continue to do so. If this drives the price down I can't criticize them too much. For my particular family lines Ancestry is producing the best matches, and the most matches. The other companies have really slowed down now and aren't producing many significant matches. Ancestry is the only game in town for me now.


	G	F	M	C	H
180831	Deborah Goodman	Forgey	End Forgey	FRJFRK	0
180834	Deborah Goodman	Forgey	Eve Forgey		1911
180835	Deborah Goodman	Forgey	James Archibald Forgey		1895
180836	Adams_Gene	Forgey	Amos Forgey		1823
180837	Adams_Gene	Forgey	Andrew Forgey		1879
180838	Adams_Gene	Forgey	Andrew Forgey		1732
180839	Adams_Gene	Forgey	James R. Forgey		1837
180840	Adams_Gene	Forgey	Sarah Elizabeth Forgey		1863
180841	SharonHenson1	Forgey	Mary Ann Forgey		1951
180842	Nan Harvey	Forgey	Andrew Forgey		1809
180843	Nan Harvey	Forgey	Archibald Forgey		1862
180844	Nan Harvey	Forgey	Eleanor Forgey		1836
180845	Nan Harvey	Forgey	Hugh Forgey		1830
180846	Elissa Williams	Forgey	Mary Francis Forgey		1915
180847	RodgerShambles1	Forgey	Ellen Forgey		1812
180848	dagrubbs1	Forgey	Andrew Forgey		1809
180849	dagrubbs1	Forgey	Emily Jane Forgey		1887
180850	dagrubbs1	Forgey	Hugh Forgey		1830
180851	dagrubbs1	Forgey	James A. Forgey		1860
180852	C_englis	Forgey	Andrew Forgey		1732
180853	C_englis	Forgey	Archibald Forgey		1790
180854	C_englis	Forgey	George C. Forgey		1865
180855	C_englis	Forgey	George S. Forgey		1829
180856	C_englis	Forgey	Hugh Forgey		1762
180857	C_englis	Forgey	Jewel Etienne Forgey		1895
180858	C_englis	Forgey	Vedon Ray Forgey		1920
180859	C_englis	Forgey			1993


When I do another scan I know now to keep refreshing the screen until it continues. Glad to have finally gotten all of this information downloaded. Productive week. Thank you very much Jeff Snavelly!


Posted by Annette at 11:07 AM No comments: 

Friday, August 1, 2014

# DNA News of the Week: Ancestry Test Results

27 people  [Review match](#)

11091 people  [Review match](#)

414 people  [Review match](#)

I like the icons added showing common matches between my Mom and I

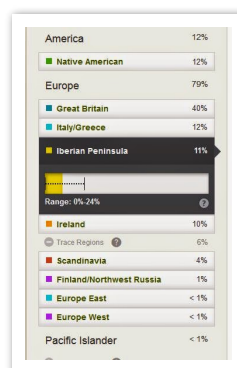
My Mom's AncestryDNA test results came in on Monday July 28; exactly 3 weeks after I mailed the kit in. I wasn't confident she would pass the test on the first try. It took half an hour to collect the sample from her, and I wasn't sure if there was enough saliva. I guess all was good because she passed.

It's taken a few days for the surname and place search to be fully functional. My mom and I share 2658 common matches out of around 7000 matches a piece.



I called Ancestry when I couldn't get the search to work the day after the results came in. They came to the same conclusion I did that the search takes time to make all of the connections. I was told that better sharing tools would be coming out soon.

I'm very happy with the results. Her ethnic breakdown looks plausible. Her range for Spanish/Iberian was between 0-24%. I believe it is around 24%. The only thing left out were her German DNA roots. When I looked at the heat map Great Britain does overlap on to the continent.



My primary objectives in testing her with Ancestry were met. I had some things I wanted to clarify by testing her. I had noticed one of the Owens descendant match's was possibly related to me through my father and mother's side. I assumed that this person shared DNA on my father's side. As it turns out they match on my Mom's side. So this person being a low confidence match probably shares only Callahan line DNA and not Owens. I have already confirmed my Callahan line with DNA testing. I need more DNA support on my Owens line. I had one more Owens match which held up after testing my Mom. She didn't match this particular person; supporting paternal origins for this match.

Another line I wanted more DNA support for was Urmey/Brower. I had a Brower match on the correct paper trail line. My Mom was also a moderate match with the same person. She also had Urmey matches which provides additional support. I have always been troubled by the fact that my Eve Urmey was not named in her father's will. This could have been a recording error?

I am always looking any DNA matches supporting our Forgey circumstantial case. My mother got some Forgey matches I didn't have. My Mom also had a Duer match which might connect with Margaret Reynolds-Forgey? Her mother was said to be Ellen Duer. Right now I'm looking for firm matches on the Fisher and Reynolds lines. We already know that all the Tennessee Forgeys are related, so matching strictly on that line doesn't mean as much. If I could collect Forgey segments it would more useful.

I'm still waiting for my Aunt's DNA test results. Her sample was received a week before I mailed my Mom's to AncestryDNA. She is testing with FamilyTree DNA. I regret not having her tested with AncestryDNA now. I'm hesitant to ask family members to do a saliva test. Also the saliva tests sometimes have to be repeated. AncestryDNA has a better database to compare with. I wish they had a swab test. In the future, as long as GEDmatch is around, I think I'll use Ancestry instead of Family Tree for autosomal tests.

Posted by [Annette](#) at [11:33 AM](#)

No comments:



Tuesday, July 8, 2014

## DNA News of the Week: Solving Problems With Segments



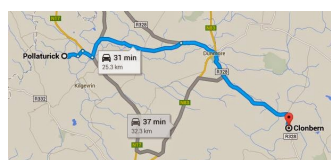


I had not been able to finish watching the last half hour of the Jamboree Webinar I purchased until last week. For some reason (maybe the fact I use Wifi?) I kept losing the video signal half an hour into it, and could never advance passed that. I purchased the session "TECHNIQUES FOR USE OF AUTOSOMAL DNA TESTS TO BREAK THROUGH GENEALOGICAL BRICK WALLS" ([link to syllabus 1](#), [syllabus 2](#)).

The techniques used by Dr. Janzen focus on establishing a good foundation for drawing conclusions using shared segments. Having your parents tested allows you to do phasing which is extremely useful. Even if you only have one parent test it's very useful. The more close cousins you test or compare with, such as 1st through 3rd, puts you in a better position when it comes to making connections with more distant cousins. The segments shared at these cousin levels tend to be large, and more conclusive than the much smaller segments shared by distant cousins. You can extend the length of your ancestral segments if your matches shared segment extends beyond yours. When you find others sharing smaller segments at 4th cousin and beyond you can then more confidently label those segments. Unfortunately, 23andme and Family Tree DNA are on different builds, with 23andme on the 37 build and Family Tree DNA is on the 36 build. This just means more positions have been added to the chromosomes by 23andme, making them longer. This can lead to problems when comparing between companies. Family Tree DNA may eventually move to the 37 build or advance to a 38 build.

Dr. Janzen emphasized the need to take great care before assuming you received a segment from a particular ancestor. You need to look for all possible connections going back as far as possible. His example was the surname Broshears (which coincidentally has a connection with my family). This name isn't very common so he assumed that was his connection with one of his matches. Doing more research he discovered it was not their shared ancestral line. Instead it was Alexander.

As an aside, interestingly this week I received an email from a representative of an adoptee. He concluded the same thing I did. This person is related to me through my Irish line due to the fact several others with the same roots match me on that segment. He also collected gedcoms from the other matches and found out that we all shared ancestors with the surname Mullen. Three of us do. Mullen being very common, the population of Ireland not being very mobile, and a paper trail going back only around 150 years makes, confirming our connection is through Mullen nearly impossible. We are hoping advances in segment identification will solve this problem. He also concluded we were likely 3rd cousins based on the amount of DNA we share in common. This can be misleading due to the fact the Irish population is fairly endogamous.



Our Mullens lived 15 miles from one of my matches Mullens

Dr Janzen also spoke briefly about endogamous populations. Isolated populations, such as those living on islands, tend to marry blood relatives. This leads to even

distant relatives sharing large amounts of DNA.

Autosomal DNA testing as it currently stands is not very helpful for those with ancestors in these populations.

The French Canadian population is like that, since everyone is descended from a small population of founders. The founding population of the US was much larger and tended to be always on the move (and receiving new infusions of DNA from immigrants). My ancestors, anyway, were constantly on a westward move until we hit the Pacific Ocean. So far, along my US line, I've only found one match sharing with me through more than one line.

#### Ranges of sharing percentage

Figures from 23andMe's Relative Finder:

- Parent/child: 47-54 (for father/son pairs, who do not share the X chromosome) to ~50%
- 1st cousins: 7.31-13.8
- 1st cousins once removed: 3.3-8.51
- 2nd cousins: 2.85-5.94
- 2nd cousins once removed: .57-2.54
- 3rd cousins: ca. 3-2.0
- 3rd cousins once removed: .11-1.32
- 4th and more distant cousins: .07-.5

Use with caution (from ISSOGG site)

Someone asked a question at the end directed toward the medical side of testing since Dr. Janzen is a medical doctor. They wanted to know how useful 23andme type testing is. He said it can provide useful information, but isn't really that informative at this time. As he said a majority of illness is due to factors not related to DNA. Lifestyle is the number one contributor to disease and illness.

Dr. Janzen's session points up the need for easy access to segment information. Without it we can't confidently draw conclusions. He stated we need to put pressure on the testing companies to release this information.

(Another aside, I just finished listening to Dr. Janzen speak again about the use of segments. He said he feels testing 2nd cousins offers more bang for your buck).

Posted by **Annette** at **1:46 PM**

**2 comments:**



Monday, June 30, 2014

## DNA News of the Week: New AncestryDNA tools? That Work?

**vimeo** • livestream

### Page Not Found (404)

Sorry, the requested URL could not be found. [Find events to watch on Livestream.](#)

Watch **live streaming video** from **ancestry** at [livestream.com](#)

This weekend I listened to The Barefoot Genealogist's Livestream video titled "DNA Bio Connections". I had heard information, coming out of NGS, that new tools were in the works at AncestryDNA. The Barefoot Genealogist spoke about that, briefly, in this presentation. She said they would be coming out sometime this year. I'm hoping that they give us a tool which allows us to see where we share DNA with out matches?

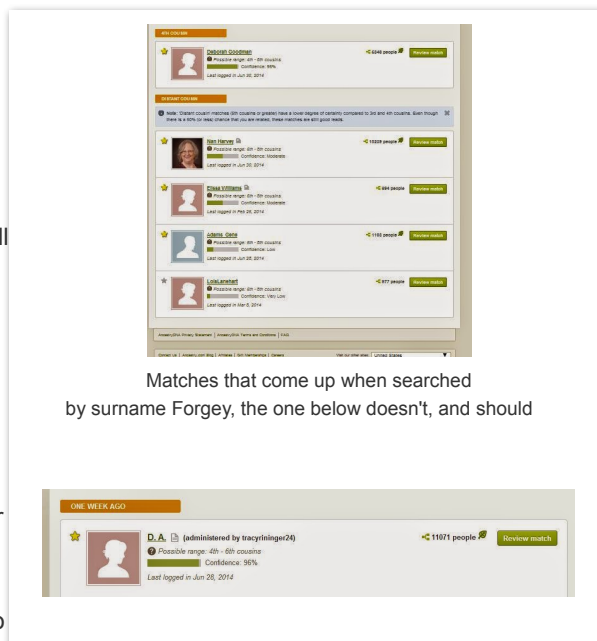
I'm also hoping one of the old tools will get fixed or replaced. The surname and place search doesn't always catch every match with the surname or place you are searching for. If you would like to find every instance of a particular name you will have to look at every match. That is far too time consuming for most people. I thought the search problems were fixed until it surfaced again recently; I had a new Forgey match that didn't show up in the search. After this I decided to go through my match list and search for names one match at a time again (the leaf hints do work however). I still have 100 pages of matches to search.

I'm hoping we get a fixed or a revamped search soon!.

I do recommend the Ancestry Livestream video I posted above. Some very good advice is provided.

Right now, with the present tools, finding and evaluating matches is extremely time consuming. Proper evaluation requires uploading raw data to GEDmatch. Most of my matches will not agree to compare there; which presents a problem. Without seeing the segments we share it's difficult to confirm who our shared ancestor is. It would be a nice gesture for [Ancestry.com](#) to make a generous donation to [GEDmatch](#) since their customers rely on this site so heavily.

Here is my most recent list of connections I found at AncestryDNA. I've found many, and do recommend testing with them. At this point, as I stated before, it can be time consuming digging out all relevant matches. Hopefully the new tools will be aimed towards providing information to help compare DNA segments with matches, and we get a surname and place search that finds what we are searching for every time.



Matches that come up when searched by surname Forgey, the one below doesn't, and should

■ Huber/ Julie Kummel	■ Poteet Zirkle/ j_judy55
■ Brower Christian/ jcrow61	■ Roller Johannes/ crittercare
■ Poteet/ Msclem13	■ Roller George Son of Jacob D F F
■ Roller Sarah Daughter of Peter M. G. (administered by mpgrandone)	■ Zirkle Hans Heinrich RitaStroud65
■ Zirkle Catherine/ Dayton22	■ Zirkle Lewis L.B.T
■ Bierbower/ Sbknop62 /	■ Zirkle Margaret L. J. (administered by scolgrovevine) /
■ Giguere Despina R. F. D	■ Zirkle Roush patriciaInay
■ Houle/ DM	■ zirkle Scolgrovevine /
■ Lemay johnpc52 /	■ Zirkle/ J. L. (administered by rlevel)

Posted by **Annette** at **12:30 PM**

No comments:



Tuesday, June 24, 2014

## DNA News of the Week: Taking Steps Forward and Backward

How DNA will change the face of Irish genealo...



A few weeks ago I said that I thought I may have found an Ancestry.com match relating to my Thurman family line. It was a very low confidence match and this person traced their Thurman line back to a Baze Thurman. I looked this line up at the Thurman DNA project and found they were in the R1b haplo group. The Y test results for my Thurman line came in this week. His haplo group wasn't R1b (thank goodness). My Thurman line is in the I1 Haplo group. So now it appears we are actually related to a Richard Thurman and Sarah of Prince Edward County, VA. We are still not certain whether my John Thurman was their son or nephew?

Going back to my false assumption that a very low confidence Thurman match may have related to my own line brings up an issue I've been wondering about. Does Ancestry use your tree information along with DNA results when assigning your matches? I would think they





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Posted by **Annette** at **2:02 PM**    5 comments:    

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

## DNA News of the Week: SCGS Jamboree 2014

### Something went wrong

To continue, contact our [support team](#) (make sure you have your IP address), and mention code **W4A0F6**.

Another news worthy DNA week has passed. Big announcement that Ancestry.com is now out of the mtDNA and Y DNA business. A distant Forgey cousin tested his Y DNA with Ancestry.com. Nothing really came of it that I know of ? It was never a popular company for that kind of testing. The set up for the projects wasn't as helpful as Family Tree DNA which has many great tools. AncestryDNA would be much more respected in the genetic genealogy community if they showed their costumers the positions of segment matches.

The streaming at Jamboree got off to a bumpy start this year. DNA Day streaming buffered constantly because of a slow Internet connection at the hotel. Many of us still had buffering problems on Friday. This may have had something to do with an AT&T service problem. By Saturday all of the streaming problems were resolved.

One of the best tips I got from this year's Jamboree was from Cyndi Ingle's presentation regarding **One Tab**. This Google Chrome Extension saves memory and stops tab clutter. I tend to have large numbers of tabs open at once, which can get very confusing.

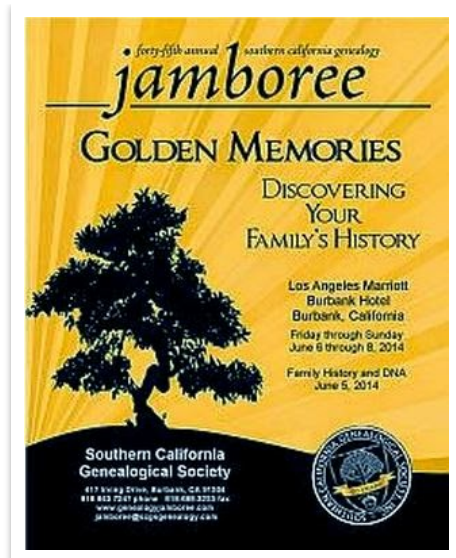
Some of the Live Stream sessions I viewed, and what I picked up from them:

1. "**DNA and the Genealogical Proof Standard**" which was presented by Blaine Bettinger. As he stated DNA is an important part of proving a lineage to the level of the GPS. As he said going back 200 years there is an 8 percent chance of a non paternal event.

The farther back you trace your family the more chances there are for a break in the line. He also brought up the fact that DNA can't prove everything; the tests have limitations. It is just one aspect of the proof standard. Testing is cheaper than it was; but, can still become very expensive if you want to test every family line, as he also mentioned. Choose tests and testers wisely. He also mentioned what a hassle it can be to convince someone to test, and get them to actually return the kit. I know someone who still hasn't returned a kit after 3 years.

2. **The Internet: A Genealogist's Printing Press** presented by Cyndi Ingle. This was presented differently than I expected. I was expecting information on publishing a book with an online publisher. Instead the presentation dealt with query forums, blogs and other places where we post information or interact with fellow researchers. I thought this was an excellent presentation. My communications, over the years, have become more slap dash due the fast pace of Internet communication. I do need to take a little more time with my communications. Cyndi also brought up blog naming. My blog name isn't very catchy or informative. I could have put more thought into.
3. **Rights and Responsibilities** presented by Judy Russell was very interesting. The video of her presentation along with the others will be available until July 5th.
4. **Your Irish Ancestry Online** I collected some new site links from this presentation by Dr. Maurice Gleeson. I thought the site for the **Trinity College 1641 and 1671 landowners' search** was particularly interesting.
5. **Dr. Maurice Gleeson: Ireland and the Slave Trade** Was another interesting Irish related presentation. The connection between Barbados and Ireland is fascinating. I believe a distant Forgie relation served as an indentured servant there. I had no idea that Irish women and children were sent there as slaves. It's not known yet whether they were enslaved for life.
6. **Resources of the DAR: Beyond Revolutionary War Soldiers** presented by D. Joshua Taylor was another interesting presentation I viewed. Interesting to see the website's new look.
7. **The Future of Genetic Genealogy** presented by Bennett Greenspan founder and owner of Family Tree DNA. Many interesting points were brought up in this great presentation
  - The Big Y Project will produce closer terminal SNPs for all of us (meaning closer in time. Hopefully to within a couple hundred years)
  - Convergence was also discussed. Convergence occurs when mutations separate you from your correct line and make it look like you are related to a different line; which doesn't share your surname. Having a matching terminal SNP eliminates the possibility of connecting with the wrong line.
  - I learned that our Kapple/Kapple J2 Haplo split from J1 10,000 years ago.
  - Y DNA and MtDNA is a science; but Autosomal DNA is an art and a science.
  - It isn't known for sure how much of what Autosomal DNA purports to tell us is actually just hype? Some of the claims may not be true? (we need Geneticists not affiliated with the testing companies to take a look at consumer testing and evaluate the accuracy of the whole process.)
  - The problem faced when Autosomal testing inbred populations was also brought up. Current testing filters frequently misidentify the level of relationship.
  - Larger Autosomal DNA chips would make the process more accurate. The cost of the chip at this point is too high.
  - Full sequencing may become affordable in 5-10 years

I appreciate these livestreams because I'm a caregiver, and can't leave home for very long. I've been attending by livestream for several years now. Hopefully I can attend in person next year!



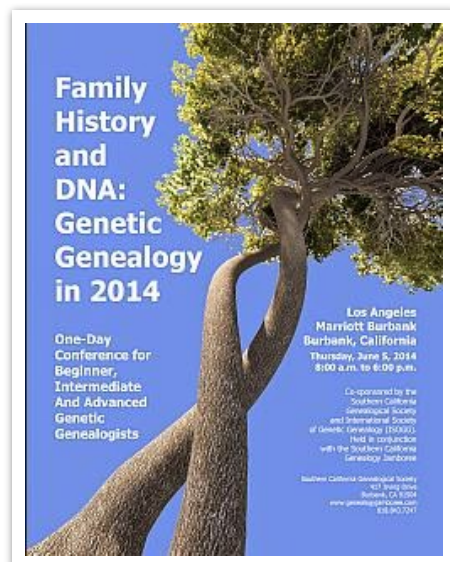
Posted by **Annette** at **4:15 PM**

No comments:



Thursday, June 5, 2014

## DNA Day at Jamboree 2014



I attended the Lab Tour session this morning via live stream. I tried to attend the Advanced Autosomal session at 5:00, but I had lots of problems with the feed.

The Lab Tour session was very interesting and included a demonstration on how DNA is extracted using a strawberry. The presenter then explained a little about the different tests available. Volunteers carrying colored circles were enlisted to demonstrate how mtDNA results are produced. Autosomal DNA lab analysis was explained in the same way, but this time the volunteers carried large cards with colored dots representing SNPs. Apparently the cards weren't correctly printed, so there was a lab failure as an audience member put it.

I didn't know that the Y DNA and mtDNA samples weren't analyzed using a chip? Only the autosomal testing is done with a chip. That's probably why the autosomal tests come back so quickly.

All of us are wishing for more accurate ethnicity results; but, as the presenter explained we are a long way from that goal at this time. As she stated all the DNA companies use different reference populations; which is the reason all the companies produce different results. For instance Family Tree DNA uses these data sets GeneByGene DNA customer database, Human Genome Diversity Project, International HapMap Project, Estonian Biocentre data. 23andme uses the Human Genome Diversity Project, International HapMap Project, and 1000 Genome Project. Ancestry uses the Human Genome Diversity Project and the Sorenson database. All of the companies use their own customer sample collections. So we don't get consistent results.

To explain why it's so difficult to accurately predict ethnic origins the presenter used a US Map game. She asked which states are associated with football? Many states are. So we can't pinpoint one. If we have some additional information like a Football state and the Fighting Irish we can confidently pinpoint the state. Not being an expert on the subject I interpret this as meaning we need to find certain combinations of SNPs in order to establish a link to a particular place. I also suppose we don't have all of these combinations mapped out yet. We need larger sets of data from every ethnic population in the world in order to find the unique SNP combinations shared by these groups. That may be a wrong interpretation? It's the way I understood it (I shouldn't have napped in biology class). We are still in the infancy of ethnic prediction. The data is still being collected, and the analysis process is still being refined. From this explanation it seems like eventually we will get the accurate results we are looking for.



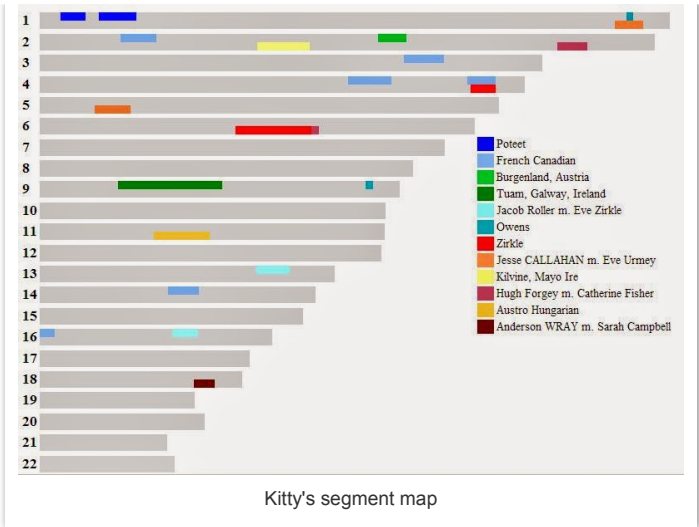
The presenter also shared a story about when she didn't follow lab procedures and temporarily blinded herself. That was in the early days of analysis when goggles were required so your eyes wouldn't be damaged by ultra violet light. The process is safer now. **DNA and the Genealogical proof standard** will be live streamed at 2:30 pacific time tomorrow. It's a free session.

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Posted by **Annette** at **10:10 PM**    **No comments:**    

Wednesday, June 4, 2014

## DNA News Update: Genome Mate's Segment Mapper



Genome Mate now allows you to download a CSV file to [Kitty's DNA mapper site](#). You can also use the mapper provided at the [Genome Mate](#) site itself. This is an important tool to keep track of your shared segments. Autosomal DNA, for genealogy, is all about the finding shared segments. Matching segments establishes a genetic relationship between you and your matches. Triangulation is an important part of genetic genealogy because it allows you to find matches who share segments in common with you and your matches. Sharing DNA on a small random segments with another person doesn't prove you are related to them. To confirm a relationship you need to find a shared ancestor. The best proof is having a shared ancestor with your match, and more than two people from the same line matching on the same segment, or segments. CeCe Moore gave more clarification regarding her statement about sharing multiple segments, and its implication that you share a common ancestor more recently. She said the segments should be larger ones; 7 cMs and over. Although there isn't any hard and fast rule regarding how much DNA anyone past 3rd cousin should share in order for the match segments to be IBD.

The segments maps at [Genome Mate](#) and [Kitty's Mapper](#) are both great. You can download a CSV file from [Genome Mate](#) with your selected segments. This is great. Otherwise you would have to select the matches 5 at a time from Family Tree DNA's chromosome browser, or slowly copy them off a spreadsheet. Both more time consuming. Before you upload the file you can open it and change the segment names if you would like (you actually do need to open the file anyway to rename the segment headings Start and End).

All of [Genome Mate's](#) tools are very helpful. It's an indispensable program for Genetic Genealogy.

Side	Chr	Start_Point	End_Point	Generation	MRCA
P	6	77000000	107000000	7	Lewis Zirkle
M	1	80000000	180000000	7	Susannah Poteet
M	1	230000000	380000000	7	Susannah Poteet
M	1	228000000	239000000	5	Jesse CALLAHAN
P	2	32000000	46000000	2	Dorothy Winifred MASON
P	2	86000000	107000000	2	Dorothy Winifred MASON
P	2	134000000	145000000	2	Rudolph Christian Kapple
M	2	205000000	217000000	6	Hugh Forgey
P	3	144000000	160000000	2	Dorothy Winifred MASON
P	4	122000000	139000000	2	Dorothy Winifred MASON
P	4	169000000	180000000	2	Dorothy Winifred MASON
P	6	102000000	110000000	6	Hugh Forgey
P	9	31000000	72000000	3	Helen Mullen
P	11	45000000	67000000	2	Rudolph Christian Kapple
P	13	85000000	98000000	6	Jacob Roller m. Eve Zirkle
P	14	50000000	62000000	2	Dorothy Winifred MASON
P	18	60000000	68000000	5	Anderson WRAY
P	16	0	60000000	2	Dorothy Winifred MASON
P	16	52000000	62000000	6	Jacob Roller
M	5	22000000	36000000	5	Jesse CALLAHAN
M	4	170000000	180000000	7	Lewis Zirkle

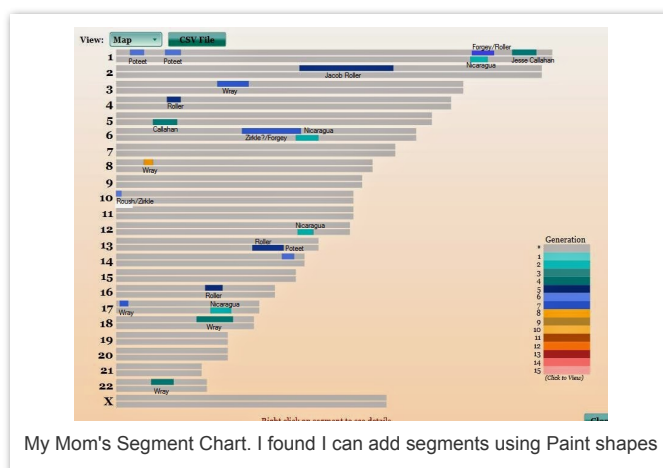
CSV file



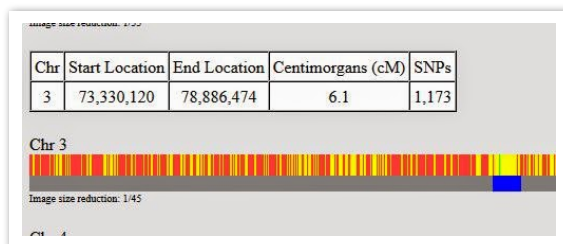


Sunday, June 1, 2014

# DNA News of the Week: Very Low Confidence Matches? Plus Genome Mate



Last week I said that I had found a very low confidence match at AncestryDNA who shared a 20 cM segment, and the others I looked at, in that confidence range, shared 10 cM segments. This week I was contacted by a very low confidence match who shared only one 6 cM segment. That doesn't sound like a very promising match? As it turned out she also matched my mother at FTDNA, and shared much more DNA with her. She shared a 28 cM segment with her. I looked at her Ancestry.com tree and found a Rhea on it. I then did more research to see whether her Rhea might be related to our Wrays? I did find that her Rhea ancestor was indeed related to our Wrays. I also found another Rhea matching on the same segment. So very low confidence matches sharing small amounts of DNA can be related. It just takes verification through a stronger match with another proven relative.



Lucky I was able to compare with my latest AncestryDNA match before the site went down for a few weeks. Here is their statement about the site status:

"GEDmatch temporarily down. As most of you know, website reliability has been an ongoing problem. In an effort to improve reliability, we are starting the process of changing the location of our servers. It is anticipated that this transition may take at least a couple of weeks. Thank you for your patience and support during this process. As we know more about an anticipated restoration date, we will post that information here. Please do not send emails asking when the site will be back online."

I'm hoping I don't need to do another comparison until the site is back up again; if I do then

it's going to be a long wait.

Another DNA project I have been working on this week is at [Genome Mate](#). I happened to see this announcement from the software developer:

"Expanded the Segment List to show a chromosome map and added an export button to format data for use in Kitty's mapper. Click on Segments on the main page."

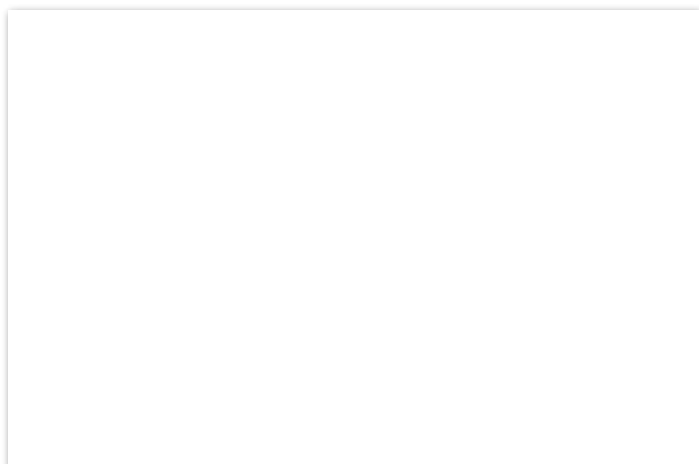
So I went ahead and highlighted all my match segments properly by selecting the ancestor our lines match through, and also selecting the Paternal or Maternal radio buttons. I did all of this for both my Mom and myself. After completing this I found I was not able to download a CSV file to use for [Kitty's mapper](#)? So I went back to Facebook to look for more information and found this:

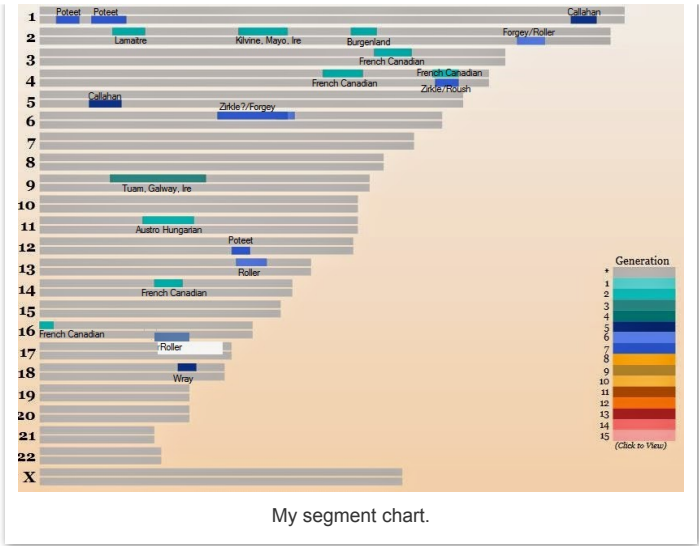
"Segments need to be marked as permanent before they can be exported. I often will mark a segment but not make it permanent until I have it triangulated."

So I went back and couldn't find a button to mark the segments as permanent. I went back to Facebook again and found more instructions. You need to right click on the segments in the segment map, which takes you to a dialog box with the save button. So I finally got it downloaded and went over to the [Kitty's mapper](#) site. I then discovered it wouldn't work because the formatting wasn't correct and the full segment numbers weren't included. So if I want to use the [Genome Mate](#)'s CSV file with [Kitty's mapper](#) I need to add the information. I decided that would be too time consuming. I might as well just download to information from FTDNA 5 matches at a time then combine it all in one CSV file. I may do this when I get a chance.

I did manage to accomplish a great deal DNA wise this week. Now I have another Wray cousin. After some triangulation I also managed to find more likely Wray matches. I have segment maps at [Genome Mate](#). I also have another Irish match at FTDNA. This match has ancestors from Tuam, Galway, Ireland. Two other matches share the same segment; a third shares a segment with one of them. One of these matches is adopted so this new match should provide her with more ancestral origin information. My Mullen family came from the Tuam area of Galway, so this is probably a IBD match.

I'm looking forward to the streaming sessions from [Jamboree](#) which begin on Thursday. The first day is DNA day, and there is a \$30 per session charge for viewing. The next 3 days are free.





Posted by Annette at 5:43 PM 2 comments:

Saturday, May 24, 2014

# DNA News of the Week: Are those Cousin Predictions Accurate?

**Family History and DNA - Genetic Genealogy**

**LIVE WEBCAST**

5 Sessions  
Thursday, June 5, 2014  
10:30am to 6:30pm PDT

**Family History and DNA: Streamed Video All-Day Pass**

Join us for five-streamed webcasts of five sessions from the Family History and DNA Conference, co-sponsored by ISOGG and SCGS. Individual sessions cost \$39 each. Purchase the All-Day Pass of five sessions at the discounted price of \$130 and receive the complete DNA conference syllabus of 20 presentations at no additional cost.

**Personal Information**

First Name:

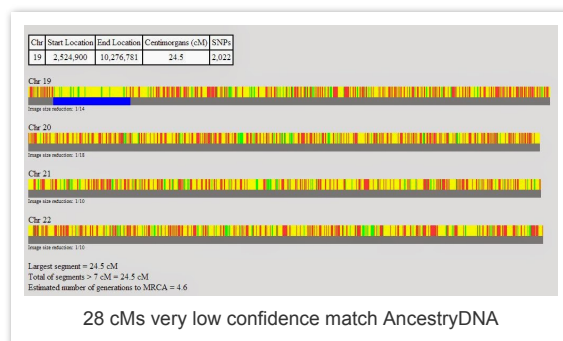
I registered for this.

23andme had its first G+ hangout this week, see the video [here](#). It was an overview of the types of tests they perform on your sample and how to navigate their site. I now have a better understanding of how to navigate their website. I manage my cousin's account. The Q & A at the end raised some interesting questions. CeCe Moore is a genetic genealogist and is very knowledgeable on the subject; most of the hangout was devoted to her site overview. Her answers during the Q & A were very enlightening. The answer to the question about segment size and cM totals, for use in deciding which matches deserve further examination, sparked my interest. I have thousands of matches to review. That list needs pruning if I want to work through the list in my remaining lifetime. I tested with FTDNA in the summer of 2012. Before I read all of the instructions on interpreting results I took the predictions literally. After identifying ancestors out past the 5 generation cut off I actually read the instructions, and

found out that remote 5th cousins can be related to you somewhere around 500 years ago.

According to the answer CeCe gave regarding how to pick out your most promising matches she recommended looking for matches who share multiple segments. She also said that large single segments can be very old ; she called them sticky segments. I have a number of matches who share single large segments and we can't find any connection. I assume these are sticky segments from hundreds of years ago. I went into my results and looked for someone who shared multiple segments. I found one with 6 shared segments. I took CeCe's advice on tailoring an email, and sent that person a query. I noticed that match had Tennessee ancestors so I brought that up in the email. I'll see if I get an answer?

I'm new to AncestryDNA and their match confidence predictions. Their predictions are also sometimes quite far off the actual relationship. They try to limit the number of IBS segments by phasing results. This process attempts to identify which segments come from your mother, and which from your father. Long compound segments may actually be made up of smaller segments from your mother and father. Phasing is supposed to identify these segments and break them down to their true size. This phasing process doesn't always produce accurate predictions. I believe they should do the phasing; but, also let us see where the segments are just in case the phasing didn't produce an accurate result. I found a very low confidence match who I shared 28cMs with. I believe she may relate on my mother's line? She may not be as low confidence as it appeared after phasing. I've noticed that very low confidence matches can share long segments of DNA, or small segments down to around 10 cMs. Phasing isn't perfect, so some good matches can be rated very low.



Another issue brought up at the 23andme G+ hangout was the low response rate of 23andme matches. Less than half will respond to queries. That is a difficult problem to resolve. I was thinking maybe they need to exclude people who don't share any information from viewing the trees? If you don't share any information at all maybe you shouldn't be able to see other peoples' information? Or maybe they could offer an incentive to customers? If you share your surname or family tree you get to use some cool feature? Maybe some sort of chart function or Gedmatch type utility? I am not going to test with 23andme until more information is given about matches.

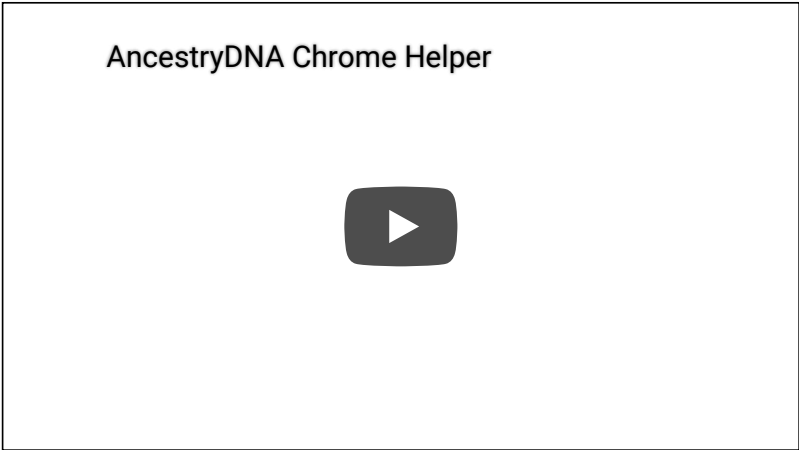
I'm looking forward to the Southern California Genealogy Jamboree live stream this year; which takes place June 5. Glad to see a full day is being devoted to DNA. I got my all day viewing pass for the DNA live stream from Jamboree you can register [here](#).

Posted by Annette at 9:50 PM

4 comments:

Sunday, May 18, 2014

# DNA News of the Week: Can DNA lie to You?



Well, my DNA has never lied to me. I've had people lie to me, but my DNA has been honest with me. Looking at my health related DNA results it show an increased risk for Thyroid disease, and I did get Graves disease 10 years ago. A news report shared by Elise Friedman at Facebook regarding Family Tree DNA brought up this particular question. The reporter said DNA doesn't lie. True, it doesn't but the results are open to interpretation. The report did provide some information I'm always excited to hear about. Bennett Greenspan was briefly interviewed and stated that 1.1 million people have tested through Family Tree DNA and the Genographic project. He also stated they are processing 200 to 300 tests a day. Really great news for those of us who have tested with them. You can listen to the report [here](#).

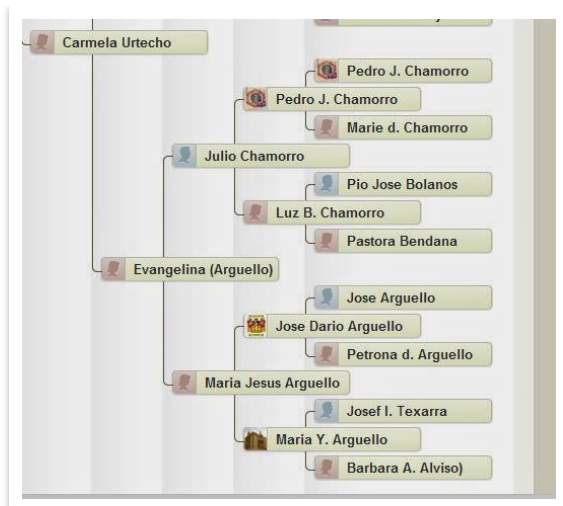
An interesting blog post regarding the phasing of atDNA results was posted this week. Phasing may help to reduce the Identical by State matches. Read more here at [DNA Genealogy](#).

I had a very exciting week DNA wise. Larry Forgey's DNA results finally came in after two months of waiting. His results provided very important data for our group at Family Tree DNA. He didn't share the rare mutation my Uncle had. No one else in our group, or our close matches at the Ferguson group have this mutation. It's on a slow mutating marker. If Larry did share this mutation it could have caused a reconsideration of the circumstantial case we've put together for the family. Larry mismatched the modal by one marker. The mutation was on a fast mutating marker. Roger Forgey remains the only person matching the modal exactly. We now need someone to test in the William Forgey of PA line, and we need more testers to help resolve the NPE's in the John Forgey PA line.

	DYS383		DYS389		DYS390		DYS391		DYS392		DYS393		DYS394		DYS395		DYS396		DYS397		DYS398		DYS399		DYS400		DYS401		DYS402		DYS403		DYS404		DYS405		DYS406		DYS407		DYS408		DYS409		DYS410		DYS411		DYS412		DYS413		DYS414		DYS415		DYS416		DYS417		DYS418		DYS419		DYS420		DYS421		DYS422		DYS423		DYS424		DYS425		DYS426		DYS427		DYS428		DYS429		DYS430		DYS431		DYS432		DYS433		DYS434		DYS435		DYS436		DYS437		DYS438		DYS439		DYS440		DYS441		DYS442		DYS443		DYS444		DYS445		DYS446		DYS447		DYS448		DYS449		DYS450		DYS451		DYS452		DYS453		DYS454		DYS455		DYS456		DYS457		DYS458		DYS459		DYS460		DYS461		DYS462		DYS463		DYS464		DYS465		DYS466		DYS467		DYS468		DYS469		DYS470		DYS471		DYS472		DYS473		DYS474		DYS475		DYS476		DYS477		DYS478		DYS479		DYS480		DYS481		DYS482		DYS483		DYS484		DYS485		DYS486		DYS487		DYS488		DYS489		DYS490		DYS491		DYS492		DYS493		DYS494		DYS495		DYS496		DYS497		DYS498		DYS499		DYS500		DYS501		DYS502		DYS503		DYS504		DYS505		DYS506		DYS507		DYS508		DYS509		DYS510		DYS511		DYS512		DYS513		DYS514		DYS515		DYS516		DYS517		DYS518		DYS519		DYS520		DYS521		DYS522		DYS523		DYS524		DYS525		DYS526		DYS527		DYS528		DYS529		DYS530		DYS531		DYS532		DYS533		DYS534		DYS535		DYS536		DYS537		DYS538		DYS539		DYS540		DYS541		DYS542		DYS543		DYS544		DYS545		DYS546		DYS547		DYS548		DYS549		DYS550		DYS551		DYS552		DYS553		DYS554		DYS555		DYS556		DYS557		DYS558		DYS559		DYS560		DYS561		DYS562		DYS563		DYS564		DYS565		DYS566		DYS567		DYS568		DYS569		DYS570		DYS571		DYS572		DYS573		DYS574		DYS575		DYS576		DYS577		DYS578		DYS579		DYS580		DYS581		DYS582		DYS583		DYS584		DYS585		DYS586		DYS587		DYS588		DYS589		DYS590		DYS591		DYS592		DYS593		DYS594		DYS595		DYS596		DYS597		DYS598		DYS599		DYS600		DYS601		DYS602		DYS603		DYS604		DYS605		DYS606		DYS607		DYS608		DYS609		DYS610		DYS611		DYS612		DYS613		DYS614		DYS615		DYS616		DYS617		DYS618		DYS619		DYS620		DYS621		DYS622		DYS623		DYS624		DYS625		DYS626		DYS627		DYS628		DYS629		DYS630		DYS631		DYS632		DYS633		DYS634		DYS635		DYS636		DYS637		DYS638		DYS639		DYS640		DYS641		DYS642		DYS643		DYS644		DYS645		DYS646		DYS647		DYS648		DYS649		DYS650		DYS651		DYS652		DYS653		DYS654		DYS655		DYS656		DYS657		DYS658		DYS659		DYS660		DYS661		DYS662		DYS663		DYS664		DYS665		DYS666		DYS667		DYS668		DYS669		DYS670		DYS671		DYS672		DYS673		DYS674		DYS675		DYS676		DYS677		DYS678		DYS679		DYS680		DYS681		DYS682		DYS683		DYS684		DYS685		DYS686		DYS687		DYS688		DYS689		DYS690		DYS691		DYS692		DYS693		DYS694		DYS695		DYS696		DYS697		DYS698		DYS699		DYS700		DYS701		DYS702		DYS703		DYS704		DYS705		DYS706		DYS707		DYS708		DYS709		DYS710		DYS711		DYS712		DYS713		DYS714		DYS715		DYS716		DYS717		DYS718		DYS719		DYS720		DYS721		DYS722		DYS723		DYS724		DYS725		DYS726		DYS727		DYS728		DYS729		DYS730		DYS731		DYS732		DYS733		DYS734		DYS735		DYS736		DYS737		DYS738		DYS739		DYS740		DYS741		DYS742		DYS743		DYS744		DYS745		DYS746		DYS747		DYS748		DYS749		DYS750		DYS751		DYS752		DYS753		DYS754		DYS755		DYS756		DYS757		DYS758		DYS759		DYS760		DYS761		DYS762		DYS763		DYS764		DYS765		DYS766		DYS767		DYS768		DYS769		DYS770		DYS771		DYS772		DYS773		DYS774		DYS775		DYS776		DYS777		DYS778		DYS779		DYS780		DYS781		DYS782		DYS783		DYS784		DYS785		DYS786		DYS787		DYS788		DYS789		DYS790		DYS791		DYS792		DYS793		DYS794		DYS795		DYS796		DYS797		DYS798		DYS799		DYS800		DYS801		DYS802		DYS803		DYS804		DYS805		DYS806		DYS807		DYS808		DYS809		DYS810		DYS811		DYS812		DYS813		DYS814		DYS815		DYS816		DYS817		DYS818		DYS819		DYS820		DYS821		DYS822		DYS823		DYS824		DYS825		DYS826		DYS827		DYS828		DYS829		DYS830		DYS831		DYS832		DYS833		DYS834		DYS835		DYS836		DYS837		DYS838		DYS839		DYS840		DYS841		DYS842		DYS843		DYS844		DYS845		DYS846		DYS847		DYS848		DYS849		DYS850		DYS851		DYS852		DYS853		DYS854		DYS855		DYS856		DYS857		DYS858		DYS859		DYS860		DYS861		DYS862		DYS863		DYS864		DYS865		DYS866		DYS867		DYS868		DYS869		DYS870		DYS871		DYS872		DYS873		DYS874		DYS875		DYS876		DYS877		DYS878		DYS879		DYS880		DYS881		DYS882		DYS883		DYS884		DYS885		DYS886		DYS887		DYS888		DYS889		DYS890		DYS891		DYS892		DYS893		DYS894		DYS895		DYS896		DYS897		DYS898		DYS899		DYS900		DYS901		DYS902		DYS903		DYS904		DYS905		DYS906		DYS907		DYS908		DYS909		DYS910		DYS911		DYS912		DYS913		DYS914		DYS915		DYS916		DYS917		DYS918		DYS919		DYS920		DYS921		DYS922		DYS923		DYS924		DYS925		DYS926		DYS927		DYS928		DYS929		DYS930		DYS931		DYS932		DYS933		DYS934		DYS935		DYS936		DYS937		DYS938		DYS939		DYS940		DYS941		DYS942		DYS943		DYS944		DYS945		DYS946		DYS947		DYS948		DYS949		DYS950		DYS951		DYS952		DYS953		DYS954		DYS955		DYS956		DYS957		DYS958		DYS959		DYS960		DYS961		DYS962		DYS963		DYS964		DYS965		DYS966		DYS967		DYS968		DYS969		DYS970		DYS971		DYS972		DYS973		DYS974		DYS975		DYS976		DYS977		DYS978		DYS979		DYS980		DYS981		DYS982		DYS983		DYS984		DYS985		DYS986		DYS987		DYS988		DYS989		DYS990		DYS991		DYS992		DYS993		DYS994		DYS995		DYS996		DYS997		DYS998		DYS999		DYS1000		DYS1001		DYS1002		DYS1003		DYS1004		DYS1005		DYS1006		DYS1007		DYS1008		DYS1009		DYS1010		DYS1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Hopefully we'll have more testers soon, and more results to look forward to!

Posted by Annette at 2:29 PM No comments:

Tuesday, May 13, 2014

## DNA News of the Week: What is really Provable?

The names in red represent lines I've had DNA matches on. I've had a Forgey matches out past my paper trail.

An important statement recently regarding DNA standards and ethics, which was recently drafted, was brought up at last week's NGS conference. You can read more about it [here](#) at The Legal Genealogist's blog. It raises questions about how test results should be used and

interpreted. I was aware of the possibility of NPE's back in 2011 when I started DNA testing relatives. I didn't have to deal with any of these events until recently. The possibility of uncovering long forgotten family secrets is a bomb shell issue, and not my favorite part of the process. So we are all trying to navigate this booby trapped maze. Advice on handling our results is appreciated.

Another very interesting bit of information coming out of the NGS conference regards ancestral predictions at AncestryDNA. AncestryDNA had been using megabase matches to predict relationship degree. Fall 2013 they switched to using centimorgans. Anyone testing earlier than that still has results based on megabases. Another hint coming out of the conference was that Ancestry does intend to offer more tools to better analyse your results. Doesn't sound like a chromosome browser? We'll have to wait and see how useful they are? You can read more about what was gleaned regarding AncestryDNA at NGS from CeCe Moore's "You Genetic Genealogist" [blog](#).

It was confirmed in the past week that Family Tree DNA did give a couple of customers the wrong DNA results due to samples becoming switched. I think the error rate is generally low, from what I hear. It is probably best to confirm your results with a second company if your results don't make sense.

Since myOrigins came out last week I've done more reading about the admixture results the DNA companies provide. As everyone agrees the sample populations are still too small to base any definite conclusions. Also as the Genographic project puts it if you are very mixed ethnically, the results can become very complicated.

A very interesting blog post about the new myOrigins utility was posted at the DNAExplained-Genetic Genealogy [blog](#). I borrowed Roberta Estes' idea, and chart, to see if I could infer my father's likely results. I came out with a 30% difference, meaning I didn't inherit this DNA from my mother. It was an interesting exercise, the differences became very apparent when I charted them. All of this is really speculation at this point. We'll see how much more unambiguous the results can become?

Region	Me	Mom	Dad Inferred Minimum
European Coastal Plain	50	41	9
European Northlands	0	10	
Trans Ural Peneplain	8	5	3
European Coastal Islands	29	15	14
Anatolia and Caucasus	0	6	
North Mediterranean	3	10	
Circumpolar	0		
Undetermined*	0		
Egypt/Jordan	4		4
Morocco Algeria		2	
African sub	2	2	
Native American	3	8	

I borrowed Roberta Estes' chart to compare our results. Undetermined was 30.

So what can we definitely prove with DNA without question?

1. With Y DNA we can prove a definite relationship between two men. We can only estimate when that relationship occurred.
2. With mtDNA we can also prove two people are related, and estimate when.
3. atDNA can prove relationships in the past few generations, and we can speculate on possible relationships beyond that. This test requires a family tree going back at least 5 generations and preferably 11.

4. As far as admixture results we can only predict European, African, Asian and Native American ancestry with a high degree of accuracy. We can't reliably predict any more precisely than those broad areas.
5. Y DNA is more reliable in giving us more precise ancestral locations. SNP's provide us with the possibility of finding a very specific ancestral locations.
6. Solid DNA matches can prove our paper trail. DNA without a paper trail proves nothing, and a paper trail without DNA confirmation doesn't prove a blood relationship.

My DNA goals:

1. After attempting to reconstruct possible results for my father I've decided I need to find a stand in for him. I will try to get one of his 4 sisters to test.
2. We need more Forgey/Forgy & Forgie men to take the Y DNA test. We need at least one confirmed haplo for each line. We can also use more atDNA testers
3. I would love to find more Owens DNA matches. So far I do have one moderate match at AncestryDNA. We may need to recruit more Owens relations for DNA testing.
4. I don't have any matches on Urmei, Brower, or Hicks. Since AncestryDNA's surname search doesn't work reliably (meaning it doesn't bring up every instance of the name you are searching for) I need to page through all my matches looking for these names
5. I am also attempting to breakdown my Sarah Campbell brickwall. I found a couple of moderate DNA matches at AncestryDNA which may lead to a breakthrough.

So what have I proven to date using DNA? I now know that my Forgey family was Scottish. We used SNP DNA testing to prove this. We also know that the most common Haplogroup for the Forgeys is I-L126. We know Andrew Forgey of Maury County, Tennessee, Andrew Forgey of Hawkins County, TN and Samuel Forgey of North Carolina are definitely related. These men were also related to a Forgie family of Co. Down, Ireland. The surname did derive from Ferguson and our group has close matches with the surname Ferguson. My Forgey family, along with the others have had no NPE's since around 1600. I've confirmed my blood relationship to a number of my lines (see pedigree charts). I've discovered Native American, and African ancestry.

Still waiting on a YDNA result at FTDNA. This test is taking much longer than usual. I'm hoping they don't have to rerun it? I was thrilled to learn I may be able to breakdown a brickwall on my Thurman line when a descendant in my line takes a Y 37 marker test. Hoping his test comes back sooner than our last test!

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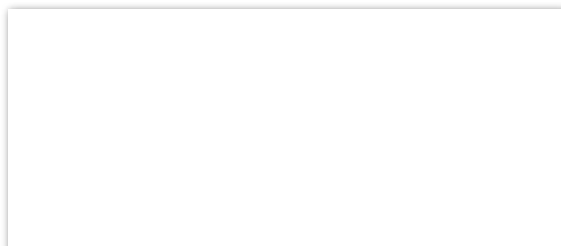
Posted by **Annette** at **1:48 PM**

No comments:



Tuesday, May 6, 2014

## DNA Extra: Ancestors Falling through the Cracks



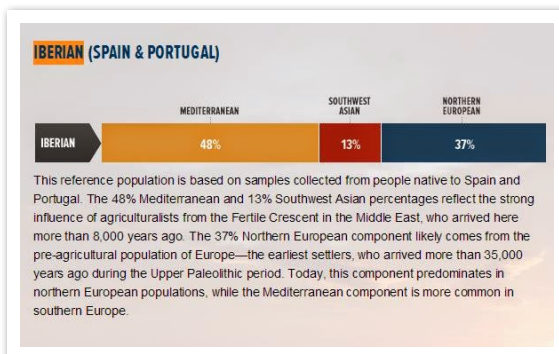


My Grandfather Rudolph and children



The Inzenhof Koppel Family had an interesting look. Some family tended to a dark complexion, others were very fair.

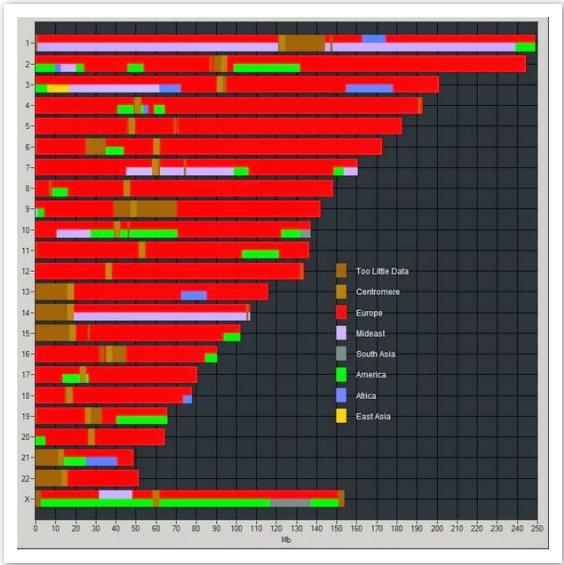
Well I seem to have found my Iberian ancestors at myOrigins. The heat maps now include Spain. It still puzzled me why my Mom only has 10% Mediterranean? The description of population reference groups at the Genographic project cleared my confusion up. The average Iberian only has 48% Mediterranean. Their DNA is so similar to Northern European you can't tell it apart. They also have some small amounts of Southwest Asian.



This may also apply to my Kapple or Koppel ancestors? Koppel is an Ashkenazi surname. The family lived on the border between Austria and Hungary. Everyone believed they were Ashkenazi based on the surname and the Semitic look of some of our family members. This is not showing up in my DNA. Ancestry did find less than 1% of Ashkenazi DNA. I have 4% Middle Eastern DNA which may related to the Kapple side of my family? It's not showing up



in my Mom's results. Her Middle Eastern isn't from North East Africa like mine. I do have 8% Eastern European, but I'm sure which side this is from? I know few people in the Koppel village area have taken any kind of DNA test. A few have taken a Y test. My Kapple cousin Darryl's Y DNA is J2B. I'm thinking the problem using DNA to find our Koppel ethnic heritage relates to not enough data. The chart Doug McDonald gave me a few years ago showed areas marked not enough data which may relate to the Koppel DNA?

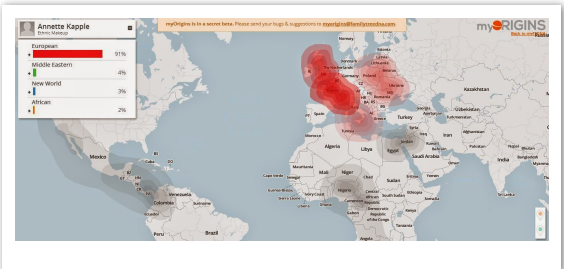


More Koppel Family

Posted by Annette at 3:42 PM    No comments:   

Monday, May 5, 2014

# DNA News of the Week: MyOrigins vs AncestryDNA



Finally we got a look at the new myOrigins ethnicity charts, which replaces Population Finder at Family Tree DNA. Sorting through all this brings to mind talk show guests who purport to communicate with dead relatives. They ask audience members, for instance, do you know someone with an R in their name. Is it a male? Is his name Robert or Roger? Not too impressive. The DNA companies do tell us instead of asking about our ancestors origins. At the same time giving themselves plenty of wiggle room by not completely committing to anything specifically. You might be told some your ancestors were from Italy. The fine print says give or take a few thousand miles. Basically your ancestors were from Europe somewhere, but who knows exactly where? That's difficult to exactly pinpoint with DNA. Broad regions can be predicted reliably however.

Actually the old Population Finder results came close to committing to a specific area. My mother was said to be 18% Mozabite with an error rate of less than 1%. Her new results have completely backed away from that.

Population	Percentage	Margin of Error
Orcadian	71.08%	±0.38%
Columbian, Maya	10.64%	±0.62%
Mozabite	18.28%	±0.25%

She now has 10% Mediterranean and 8% Middle Eastern. Only 2% is now in the Morocco/Algeria area. My Middle Eastern is only 4% now, and it was 13% with a high level of confidence. So the old Population Finder was quite inaccurate. We should have been given margins of error close to 50%.

Turning to our head to head competition between AncestryDNA and myOrigins; we find we need to translate the regional descriptions in order to compare. Western Europe seems to be covered by European Coastal Plain.

**Round 1.** European Coastal Plain at myOrigins and Western Europe at AncestryDNA. This is where we see the most stark contrast. Ancestry only gave me less than 1% for this area. My Origins gives me 50% for this region. Both could make some sense. I do have a substantial number of French Canadian and German matches, which could point to my inheriting more DNA than would be expected considering how far removed I am from these ancestors. Ancestry does say I could have plus 3% since they do present a margin of error. If you calculate shares of inheritance based on generations I could have around 3% of German and combined French? I could have inherited more than that, but I would not think it would be 50%. I would have to give that round to Ancestry.

**Round 2.** Our next round considers British Isles ancestry. Ancestry breaks that down between Britain and Ireland. Combine these two result I get 60% British Isles. MyOrigins gives me 29%. I would say 29% would be closer if you break my heritage down by generation. That round goes to MyOrigins. Ancestry gave themselves lots of wiggle room on this one with high margins of error however.

In **Round 3** we compare Eastern European results. Here we have a tie with both results around the same percentage. AncestryDNA gives me 6% with a high margin of error, and myOrigins gives me 8%.

**Round 4** Scandinavian. I am not aware of any Scandinavian in my family. I've heard that Ancestry gives unusually frequent results, and high percentages for Scandinavian. I will give them the benefit of the doubt and assume this relates to the Vikings in Scotland. This round goes to AncestryDNA.

**Round 5** Finland/ Northwest Russia. May relate to Hungarian? This round goes to AncestryDNA. No comparable myOrigins result.

**Round 6** European Jewish. I would give to AncestryDNA because I believe there should be a

trace of European Jewish which myOrigins does not show. I would like to see myOrigins show more trace regions.

**Round 7** Pacific Islander Melanesia. Don't know what to make of that? It's only 1% but is completely puzzling to me? myOrigins didn't show an equivalent. I'll just scratch this round.

**Round 8** Middle East is another tie round with both results very close. AncestryDNA gives me 5% and myOrigins gives me 4%. The edge does go slightly to myOrigins because they gave me a more specific area. Half point extra myOrigins.

**Round 9** Native American is also very close. AncestryDNA gives me 6% and myOrigins gives me 3%. I'll give this round to AncestryDNA because FTDNA pulled their old estimate of 5.2% Native American and their specific result of Central American Native American. The old estimate had a low margin of error and I don't know why they are backing down on that?

**Round 10** Africa. This result leads me to believe that the myOrigins populations are becoming more accurate. I had no African with their previous Population Finder. My mtDNA turned out to be African, so it's confirmed we do have some African. Both AncestryDNA and myOrigins give the exact same result of 2%. Half a point to AncestryDNA for a specific location Senagal. It's a tie round otherwise.

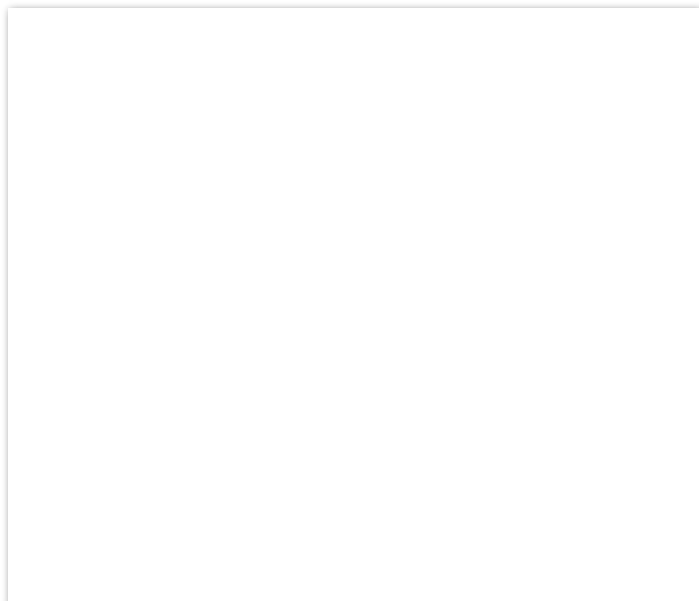
**Round 11** Mediterranean. Ancestry gives me 7% and myOrigins 3%. I tend to go with the higher results because my cousin's Y DNA of J2b pointed us in that direction. I would give this round to AncestryDNA.

**Round 12** Iberian. This isn't an area well covered by the new myOrigins. Ancestry gives me 5%, which I believe should be higher since one of my Grandmother's, Graciela Del Castillo, would have had a high percentage of this regional DNA. This round goes to AncestryDNA.

**Final results Ancestry gets 7 1/2 points and myOrigins gets 1 1/2 Plus 3 tied Rounds.**

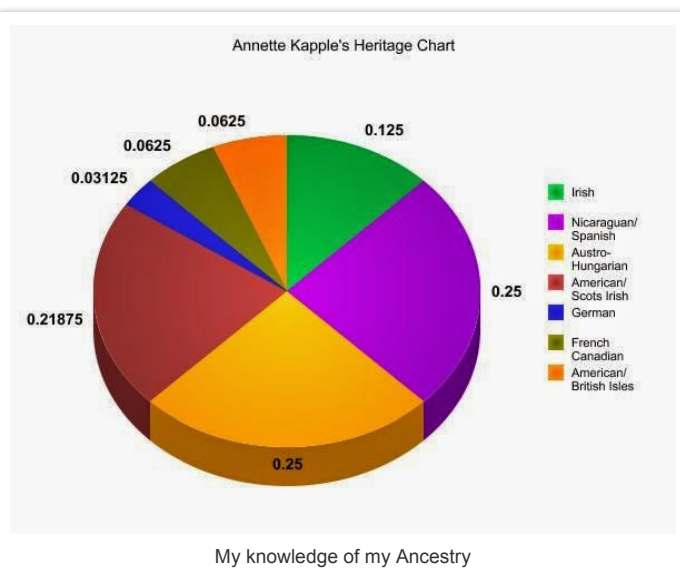
**myOrigins is brand new and I'm sure changes will be made at some point which may reconcile some of my results.**

Below are some charts I made. The first compares my percentages between AncestryDNA and myOrigins. The second would be a chart I made showing my known ancestral breakdowns.



Ethnic Region	AncestryDNA	Margin of Error	MyOrigins	
Europe	85%		91%	
Great Britain	35%	+26 -24	29%	Coastal Islands/Britain Ireland
Ireland	25%	+17 -16		
Greece Italy	7%	+12 -7	3%	North Mediterranean
Europe East	6%	+7 -6	8%	Trans-Ural
Iberian Peninsula	5%	+5 -5		
Scandinavia	4%	+13 -4		
Finland/ Northwest Russia	1%	+3 -1		
Europe West	<1%	+3	50%	EU Coastal Plain
European Jewish	<1%	+3		
Pacific Islander Melanesia	1%	+1 -1		
Middle East	5%	+11 -5	4%	Middle East / Northeast Africa Egypt /Jordan
Caucasus	<1%	+4		
Native American	6%	+1 -6	3%	New World
Africa/ Senegal	2%	-2	2%	Africa/ Niger-Congo

Comparison Between myOrigins and AncestryDNA



Posted by [Annette](#) at [1:42 PM](#) 2 comments:

Tuesday, April 29, 2014

## My DNA News of the Week: SNPs and AncestryDNA Search

PF4252	R-PF4252	Add
DF23	R-DF23	Add
M222	R-M222	Add
PF3292	R-PF3292	Add
PF3988	R-PF3988	Add
F3952	R-F3952	Add
F3024	R-F3024	Add
CT58002	R-CT58002	Add
M226	R-M226	Add
F499	R-F499	Add
Z70	R-Z70	Add
CTS12173	R-CTS12173	Add
PF2028	R-PF2028	Add
PF1909	R-PF1909	Add
CT58580	R-CT58580	Add
CT53771	R-CT53771	Add
CT510488	R-CT510488	Add
F1400	R-F1400	Add

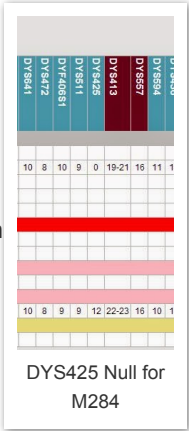
id: 0

SNP Total: \$0.00

Order Selected SNPs

Many SNPs available for sale in the R Haplo

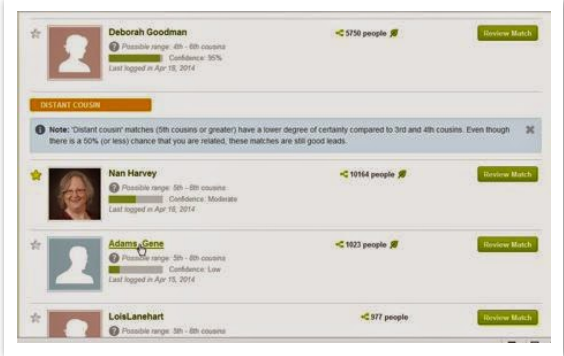
Last Friday, April 25, Family Tree DNA began to offer again for sale individual SNPs. They also expanded the number of SNPs available for purchase by including newly identified SNPs which have been discovered in partnership with the Genographic Project. These SNP markers are useful in identifying ancient migrations of the human population. Several of our testers in our Forgey/Forgy & Forgie Project have done deep clade testing to determine the origins our family. Our surname sounds vaguely French, and the spelling looks a little French. According to Lucille Wallace, the author of an extensive family history, the surname was most likely derived from the surname Ferguson and was Scots-Irish. It was still possible that the family had been Norman. A distant cousin Roger Forgey took an SNP test recommended by the Ferguson group administrator, which turned out to be positive for the SNP L126/S165+. This suggests our family has been in Brittan for thousands of years. This particular SNP also points to the family being in Scotland for 1500 to 5000 years. So our family wasn't Norman. Testing a single SNP was an inexpensive way to answer our question about family origins. Even after the release of the expanded SNP tree at Family Tree DNA that SNP is still a terminal one with no options for further testing at this time. Our question has been answered to my satisfaction at this time anyway. I think SNP testing is worthwhile only if you can test an SNP that is unique enough to be useful. I suspect many are too broad ranging to be useful.



I was inspired by all this SNP talk to Google our SNP again and see what the latest research has uncovered about it. Sounds like the definition of this SNP is the same as in 2011. I did however find an interesting Forum post about the determination of the broader Haplo M284. Dr. Kenneth Norveldt explained that a null value on marker DYS425 was a hallmark of this Haplo. Only one person in our group tested 67 markers and the DYS 425 marker. I did find the null value which confirms this haplo. Nice to see that confirmation.

My AncestryDNA search isn't working correctly again. I searched Forgey and two of my matches aren't showing up. I searched another surname I had problems with before and it's not displaying correctly either. I suspect more accounts may have the same problem; but, some of these customers probably aren't aware that some of their surnames aren't showing up. Bugs in these massive databases seem to be common and difficult to repair. Here is an example of my current issue:





These are the results I got when the surname search worked correctly



These are the results I'm currently getting. Two matches are missing and they still are in my match list.

I was hoping we would have the new Population Finder at Family Tree DNA by now. They may not release it until a conference in late May? Our Y DNA project is still awaiting another result in batch 563 which may come in this week?

Posted by Annette at 1:38 PM 2 comments:

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)[My Pedigree Charts](#)[Research Goals](#)

Thursday, November 20, 2014

## Hitting The Earth: AncestryDNA Reality Check

Reality struck me yesterday when I learned approximately how much DNA I share with some of my AncestryDNA matches

There were many thousands of weak matches. Most are gone. Some extremely low confidence matches remain and they are now called moderate? With the old version moderate actually meant your match was strong. These old moderate matches are now generally called good to high. The moderate designation is now given to those sharing 6 cM's or less??? My designation would be Extremely Low for the moderate matches. As Ancestry states you may not be related at all to these matches.

Looking at some of my starred matches I've discovered that most are in the Good category, sharing approximately 6-12 cMs. I've actually compared with one of these matches and we shared a 14.7 cM segment. Another one of these matches in the Good category shares an 8 cM segment according to FTDNA.

I've been wondering how strong my important Owens line match is. I asked this match to compare at GEDmatch. They haven't yet. Now I see we are a Good match so I'll keep pursuing this match (this is a distant 7th cousin so I'm satisfied with 6 -12 cMs). Others that have dropped down to moderate I'll check against my Mom's matches to see if they have a better confidence level a generation back.

Our Browning matches look very strong ( High and Extremely high) and should help to extend our tree further back. It would be great if we could compare in GEDmatch?

Really the best thing coming from the changes for me is seeing exactly how strong a match is. That's the meat and potatoes of all this.

Now that I have a better idea of how many cM's we share I can decide where to focus my attention. When they give the cM approximations, however, they aren't clear about what the total represents? It seems to represent the largest segment or segments?

My conclusion is based on the fact that when you include smaller segments the totals are much higher. I know this from looking at the same matches at Family Tree DNA. I share 41 cM's with a cousin at FTDNA but the probable range at Ancestry is much lower around 12



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Tennessee  
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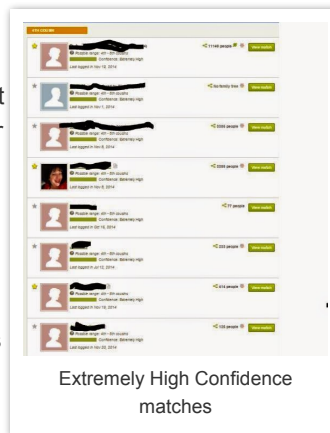
**Geneabloggers**  
Happy October  
2020  
Blogiversaries  
2 weeks ago

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cm's -20. So, at least, they aren't totaling in tiny segments.

According to AncestryDNA the extremely high matches are at nearly 100% confidence level that you share a common ancestor in the past 5 to 6 generations. I figure this is the best place to start trying to establish connections. Going back over these matches I'm still only able to confirm a link with 3 out of 8 extremely high matches. I can't establish matches for 5 of these for various reasons. Mainly because my matches don't have trees going back far enough.

I am seeing 2 Campbells in the extremely high group which is my brickwall line. I'll be working on trying to find a connection with this line. Both of these Campbell lines are from Tennessee.



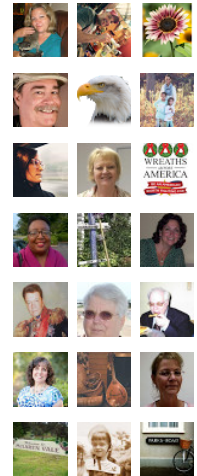
I understand that the AncestryDNA system for determining matches is more complicated than comparing segment size. For my own piece of mind I like using triangulation because the phasing process is not fool proof. I feel sorry for people like some of those at today's Ancestry.com live broadcast who are relying completely on Ancestry to name their ancestors for them without questioning the process at all. An AncestryDNA "scientist?" is writing a blog post to tell us why we don't need a chromosome browser. Can't wait to see what the BS arguments are against it.

Posted by **Annette** at 7:06 PM

No comments:



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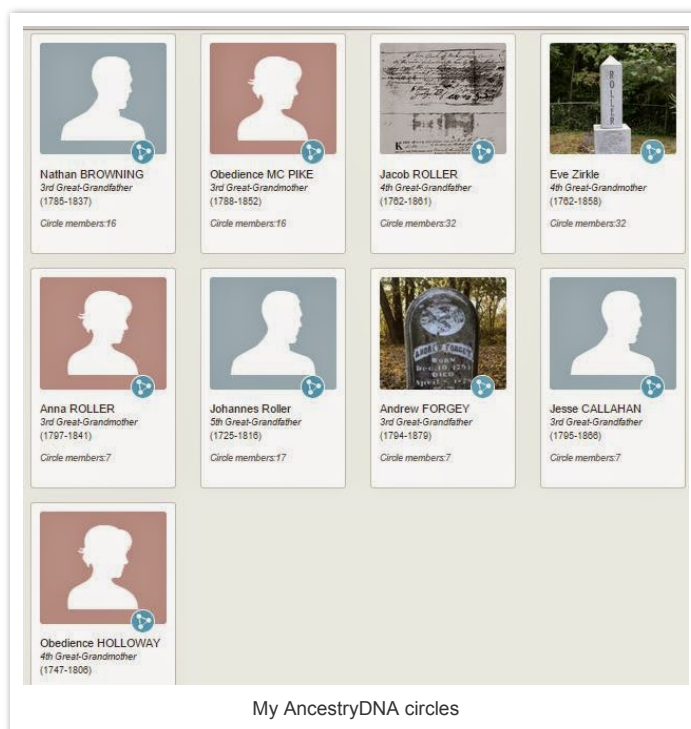
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Wednesday, November 19, 2014

## "Finding Your Roots" Ep. 9 & AncestryDNA Giveth and Taketh Away (So Far So Good)



My AncestryDNA circles

"Finding Your Roots" Ep.9 created a challenge for the shows research staff. This show focused on Greek ancestry and featured the guests George Stephanopoulos, Tina Fey, and David Sedaris. With very little to go on in Greece due to invasions, which resulted in records being destroyed. It took some serious digging to unearth anything. Record loses are something we've all had to deal with. Ireland is a real bear when it comes to family history research so I understand the problem. Like Ireland smatterings of older records survive for Greece, so some of the guests lines were extended back into the late 1700's. Greece has such an illustrious history it's sad that lines can't be extended back to ancient Greece. Some interesting details were found linking some of the guests to the fight for Greek independence from the Ottoman Empire. Tina Fey had no idea she had some British ancestry. which also linked her to early Philadelphia, and the American Revolution. Her British American Ancestor came to the attention of Benjamin Franklin just like a member of my Owens family (not for murder like my line). I really love George and Tina so I found the episode interesting.

AncestryDNA Initial Verdict (You win some you lose some)

AncestryDNA was as good as their word and released the latest version of their DNA product today. I knew this was coming, probably today, because a live broadcast was planned for tomorrow. Last night I was working on the site and I got a message that new changes were rolling out. So far I love the changes and I'm hard to please. My Dad would always ask "what do you want egg in your beer?". I did lose some matches I would have liked to see stay around, but I gained some very good new matches.

My total matches are down to 1,456 from around 10,000. I have 30 pages of matches. Before the change I had more matches than my Mom. Now she has around 100 more matches than I do.

I immediately checked to see if my critical matches were still there. All but one were still there.

The circles are a great new feature. Both my Mom and I share the same 9 circles. There are no circles representing my Dad's side. If you share matches with a number of people on the same ancestor a circle group is created showing those who are a DNA match, and some who are not but have DNA tested. It's great to see who else has tested, but hasn't isn't a match.

Will the circles be unbroken?

The only problem with circles would be name variations which may not show up linked with an ancestor, and slight date differences or place disagreements which may throw this feature off.

I have not included some suspected ancestors in my tree. I think I will have to add some of my unproven ancestry just to see if I can establish a DNA link.

Another circle downside is you have to be a paid subscriber to see your circles.

Another great feature is the improved ancestral cousin estimates. My cousin Nan was a moderate match, and is now called high. They are breaking down the estimates to a much finer degree. We can now see how much DNA we likely share. If you read the new confidence levels you can see they give you a much clearer idea of how good the match is. The new algorithms eliminated the low confidence matches so the lowest confidence is now called moderate.

- 2016 (24)
- 2015 (30)
- 2014 (53)
- 2013 (59)
- 2012 (76)
- 2011 (94)

About Me



Annette

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Feedjit

Confidence Score	Details
Extremely High	<p>Approximate amount of sharing: More than 30 centIMorgans</p> <p>Likelihood you and your match share a single recent common ancestor (within 5 or 6 generations): Virtually 100%</p> <p>Description: You and your match share enough DNA to prove that you're both descendants of a common ancestor (or couple)-and the connection is recent enough to be conclusive.</p>
Very High	<p>Approximate amount of sharing: 20-30 centIMorgans</p> <p>Likelihood you and your match share a single recent common ancestor (within 5 or 6 generations): 99%</p> <p>Description: You and your match share enough DNA that we are almost certain you're both descendants of a recent common ancestor (or couple).</p>
High	<p>Approximate amount of sharing: 12-20 centIMorgans</p> <p>Likelihood you and your match share a single recent common ancestor (within 5 or 6 generations): 95%</p> <p>Description: You and your match share enough DNA that it is likely you're both descendants of the same common ancestor or couple, but there's a small chance the common ancestor(s) are quite distant and difficult to identify.</p>
Good	<p>Approximate amount of sharing: 6-12 centIMorgans</p> <p>Likelihood you and your match share a single recent common ancestor (within 5 or 6 generations): More than 50%</p> <p>Description: You and your match share some DNA, probably from a recent common ancestor or couple, but the DNA may be from distant ancestors that are difficult to identify.</p>
Moderate	<p>Approximate amount of sharing: 6 centIMorgans or less</p> <p>Likelihood you and your match share a single recent common ancestor (within 5 or 6 generations): 20-50%</p> <p>Description: You and your match might share DNA because of a recent common ancestor or couple, share DNA from very distant ancestors, or you may not be related.</p>

Cousin Confidence levels

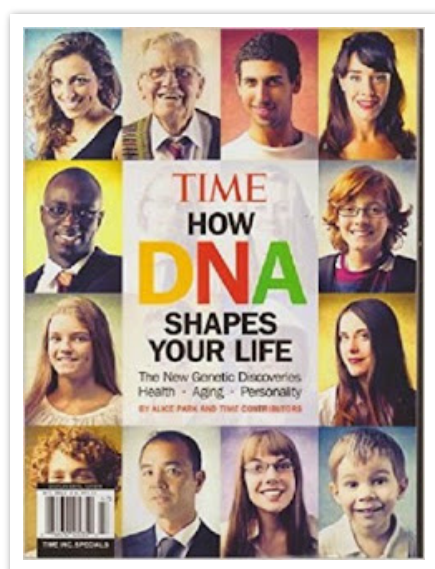
I received a message from a match I messaged 2 months ago. It appears the new features are attracting testers back to the site.

I'm happy with the changes so far. I think my 1,456 matches will be more manageable to deal with. I lost some matches and gained some new better ones. Overall a good thing. Good job Ancestry!

Posted by **Annette** at **4:24 PM** **No comments:** 

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

## "Finding Your Roots" Ep. 8 & The Autosomal DNA Tangle: Is AncestryDNA Right?



I really enjoyed episode 8 of "**Finding Your Roots**" focusing on British ancestry. I love to watch anything involving the British Empire. I mostly watch British TV programs when I watch TV. I've read more British novels than American. I have not found any proven English ancestry and would love to find some. I do have Scottish and Irish ancestry.

Sally Field's ancestry was the most fascinating. Some of her ancestors were loyalists, and one of her several times great-grandfather's was executed for treason during the American Revolution. His wife took the opportunity to relocate to Canada where she could receive free land for her family's loyalty. Sally Fields also has Mayflower ancestry that she was unaware of. One of her ancestors was a leader of the Plymouth Colony for many years, and presided over the first Thanksgiving. Sting's ancestors' lives revolved around the shipyards in England. He also had mariners in his family. The sea played such an important role in British history. Britain being an island meant they relied on sea trade to bring in commodities not available on the island. One of Stings ancestors was drowned, along with the rest of the crew, when their ship sank. Shipping was also important when it came to the lucrative Indian trade. Deepak Chopra's family benefited from the British colonization in some regards, but also suffered from some of the repercussions because of it. Deepak's father became a renowned Physician with the assistance of the British Governor of India. He was able to attend Medical school in Scotland which was a center for cutting edge medical training. When the British pulled out the unrest and relocations which resulted did negatively affect his family. As his Grandmother said the British came into India and reduced the native population





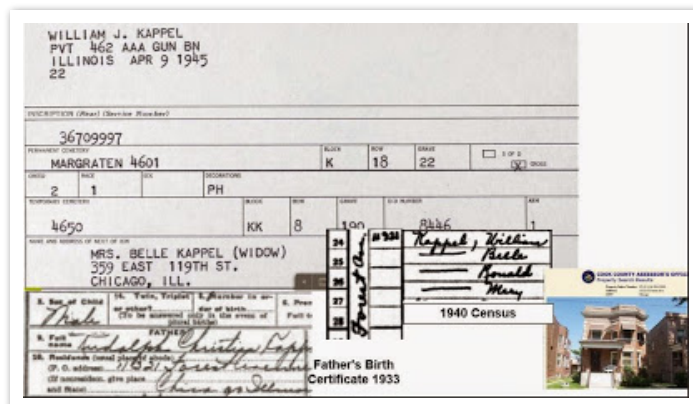
Shapes Your Life". I just got it today.

Posted by **Annette** at **9:22 PM**

No comments: 

Tuesday, November 11, 2014

## Happy Veterans Day 2014 To All Veterans!



It seems like I always make progress on my Family's Veteran ancestors around Veterans' day. Maybe it's because the genealogy sites promote their military collections around this time of year. My grandfather was a Veteran of WWI. He has come to mind especially this year because it's the Centenary of WWI this year.



This time another event spurred further research into our Military history. I was so peeved that my great uncle William Kappel was misidentified by the Margraten **Netherlands American Cemetery** site that I was forced to gather more information about him to prove he was indeed my great uncle. As I stated in the past my Kappel grandparents divorced and my grandmother brought all of her children to California in the late 1940's. Her ex husband, my grandfather, remained in Illinois and remarried a couple times. My father didn't talk about his father or his father's family very much, unless I asked. He never mentioned his uncle William was killed in WWII. My dad was always interested in WWII history. My mom and I were forced to sit through many documentaries about WWII. He probably knew his uncle was killed and just never wanted to talk about it.

My genealogy obsession began in the late 1990's when I started searching for more information about the Kappel line. Early on I found out my grandparents changed the spelling of their name from Kappel to Kapple. I was so surprised when I found out my grandfather Rudolph was from a family of 11 (now I hear possibly 12). I then gathered up all the information I could find online about his siblings. I found most of his brothers in the Social Security death index. It was then that I found out William Kappel had died in 1945. I was pretty certain that entry was his because the date of birth was exact.

I asked my aunt June if William may have been killed in WWII? She said yes he was and his widow and her grandmother were locked in a battle over benefits after his death. Before the war William had been living with his mother in the family home along with his wife and son (just like my own grandparents lived in the Kappel household for a few years). William worked as a steel inspector at a steel mill in Chicago before the war, along with his brother-

in-law. Mary had relied on her youngest son a great deal after the death of her husband in 1937; which was why she felt she was entitled to benefits when he was killed at the end of the war. The detail my aunt June provided left little doubt that the William Kappel who died in 1945 was my great uncle. A few years after I identified him I found out he was buried in the Netherlands American Cemetery. That puzzled me because aunt June said he was killed in the South Pacific? At this point I did more research and discovered the soldier buried at that cemetery was from Chicago, Illinois and was Catholic like my great uncle's family. I could find no other William Kappel's sharing his birthdate who were killed in the war. I felt confident the man buried in that cemetery was my great uncle.

I've always wanted more information. A few years ago a Facebook friend found a battalion history which gave a narrative of the circumstances of William's death. He was killed at the end of the war when he was pursuing a sniper. Another Facebook friend, and distant cousin on my Forgey line, visited the Cemetery this past summer and took some great photos and a rubbing of William's cross. All of this added information has been so rewarding!

My quest to prove William Kappel was my Uncle beyond a reasonable doubt led me to consider writing for his Social Security application which would contain his parents' names. Since a few years ago privacy laws were tightened requiring proof of the applicants death, and his parents deaths, it has become more difficult to unlock that information. I was assembling the needed



information when I stumbled on some evidence which met my own standard of proof. It was the application for a grave monument. William's widow's name was given as Belle Kappel which was also the name of his wife on the 1940 Census when they were living with my great-grandmother Mary. My father's birth certificate contained the same address in 1933. This is good enough evidence for me. I'm satisfied. The [cemetery site](#) has changed William's parents from Gabriel Kappel and Rose Kappel to my great-grandparents Frank and Mary Kappel. The wrong family was added to William's page from an Ancestry.com tree. The mix up was a good thing because it got me searching again, if I had not taken up the search again I never would have found the wonderful original documents posted at Ancestry.

Why my great uncle appears on a National Jewish American Board record is a mystery? He was likely part ethnically Ashkenazi, but the family was Catholic for at least 200 years. My grandmother Kappel said the name Kappel was generally perceived as Jewish. The surname may have led to the mistaken belief that he was Jewish?

The entire research journey with William Kappel has been very rewarding. I appreciate his service and I'm honored he is my Great Uncle.

I would like to hear from William's son Ronald Kappel born around 1937 in Chicago. That would really be the icing on the cake!

**Happy Veterans' Day to all Veterans!**

DEATH I.A.					
NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD					
BUREAU OF WAR RECORDS					
ALPHABETICAL CARD					
Last Name (Copy)	First	Middle	Rank	Serial #	Age
KAPPEL	William	J.	Pvt.		
Next of Kin	Relationship				
Mrs. Belle Kappel	Wife				
Address	City	State	Credit		
359 E. 119th St.	Chicago, Ill.		same		
Source of Information					
OWI SER. NO. 48 pg. 2733					
Branch of Service	Action Area	Honor Roll Date			
Army					
Worker Consulted	Family				

Posted by [Annette](#) at [12:41 PM](#) No comments: 

Saturday, November 8, 2014

## GEDmatch Says 14.7 cM's FTDNA Says 8.68? Who's Right?

Our Owens match contacted me yesterday. I found out that I was comparing with the exact same kit at GEDmatch as the one at FTDNA. So there was a 6 cM difference in the segment my Aunt shared with this match on chromosome 19. It could have something to do with the fact this kit was a transfer from AncestryDNA to Family Finder at FTDNA?

I have no idea why the results look so different at GEDmatch? I don't know if FTDNA is more accurate or GEDmatch? I just know the results don't match. If GEDmatch is less accurate than the testing companies than it may not be a good place to compare AncestryDNA results? It may be better to transfer your results to FTDNA and compare there. Although it may be that errors occur when raw data is uploaded to FTDNA? However I have compared with other transferred kits and don't see any unusual results?

Like I said before there are always slight differences in the cM numbers at GEDmatch. If anyone else has seen a cM difference of 5 or more on a segment please post a comment. I'm curious about how often this happens?

Posted by [Annette](#) at [8:53 PM](#) No comments: 

Friday, November 7, 2014

## GEDmatch Segment Size May Be Different From That Reported by Your Testing Company

Chr	Start Location	End Location	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs
6	102926652	111096355	8.9	1812
6	163689080	167607882	9.2	1336
13	39693656	62301884	17.1	5127

Largest segment = 17.1 cM

Total of segments > 7 cM = 35.2 cM

Estimated number of generations to MRCA = 4.3

I found a long awaited match on our Owens line at Family Tree DNA yesterday. This person evidently transferred her results to Family Tree DNA immediately after this service was announced in October. I copied

her email address and went to GEDmatch to see if she appeared in my Aunts results. I found her listed with two kits. I compared her two kits. Both kits showed identical results with my Aunt. Compared against my Aunt at GEDmatch I noticed their longest shared segment was 14.7. Her longest segment with my Aunt at Family Tree DNA was reported as 8.68?

Chromosome	Start point	End point	Genetic distance	# SNPs
6	103000000	110000000	9.3 cM	1477
6	163000000	167000000	9.0 cM	1147
13	40000000	63000000	20.7 cM	4492

A basically 6 cM difference. I've emailed this match to be sure we're comparing apples to apples. If there really is a 6 cM difference for the result on 19 (see their charts below) then there is a big problem somewhere?

Comparing results from Family Tree DNA, 23andMe, and GEDmatch there is a consistent 1 cM difference at GEDmatch with the occasional 3 cM difference. I checked to see if 23andMe was any closer to GEDmatch, but they also differ by 1 to 3 cMs (see above). I don't know how well 23andMe results compare with Family Tree DNA outside GEDmatch?

If we're using cM's to determine our relationship to a match and to triangulate it's important to have consistent numbers. Hope we can eventually compare with equivalent, agreed upon, standards. Right now I don't know whether I should accept the 14.7 result as correct or the 8.68 result? Or are we looking at different kits? Hoping to get answer soon?

Chr	Start Location	End Location	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs
2	153850240	157187768	3.7	631
2	217680093	220217413	4.8	620
8	49209260	53839724	3.6	716
9	25880597	27591332	3.3	575
11	64395739	68582731	3.2	864
19	58504556	62273812	14.7	1196

Largest segment = 14.7 cM

Chromosome	Start Location	End Location	centiMorgans (cM)	# of Matching SNPs
1	97459480	98738209	1.63	700
2	96668807	100106402	1.13	500
2	184918855	189621993	1.56	700
3	39403245	42167330	2.13	600
5	136074419	139513747	1.86	600
9	26018352	27374204	2.37	500
11	64599563	68173670	4.25	800
15	40899345	44285733	2.12	600
19	15591034	16652443	2.02	500
19	58553070	62255312	8.68	1251
X	129036644	133915684	4.35	500



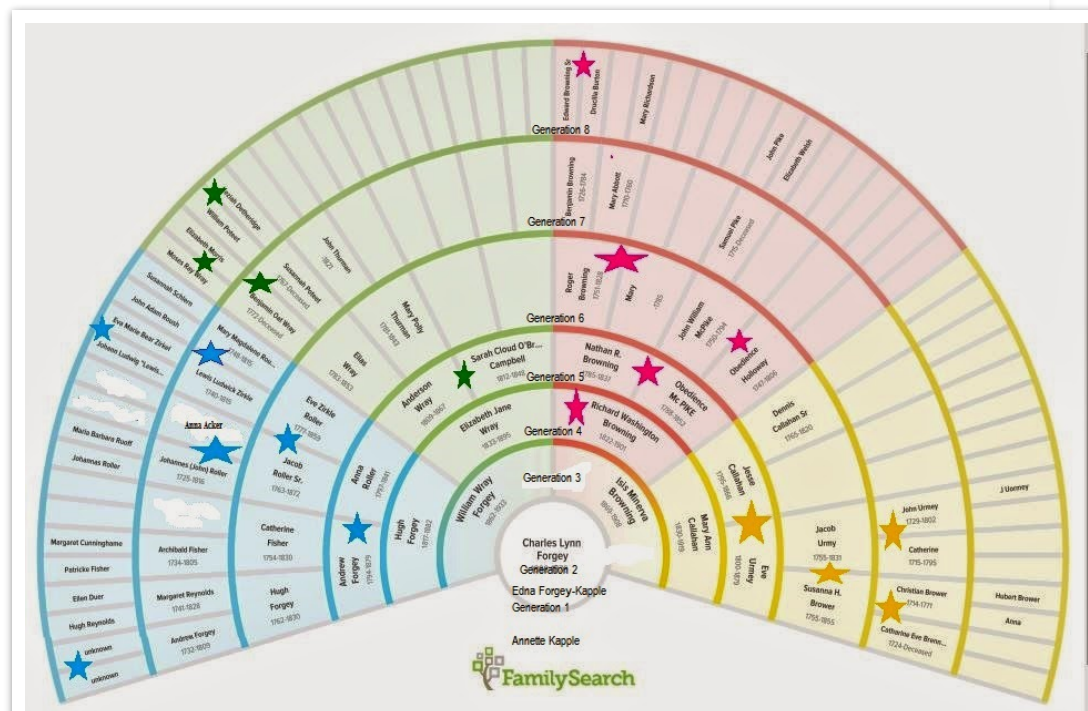
Posted by Annette at 3:36 PM

No comments:



Wednesday, November 5, 2014

## DNA News: "Finding Your Roots" Episode 7 and Tying Loose Ends



Episode 7 of "Finding Your Roots" featured guests with Jewish roots. It was a very moving episode because of the stories of the persecution of the Jewish population in the 19th and 20th centuries. Ancestors of the guests were forced to leave their homes because of the poverty and persecution they suffered in Eastern Europe. The Nazi officials were psychopaths which was clearly demonstrated by the fact that a massacre they carried out, in which some of Tony Kushner's ancestors were murdered, was called a Wedding and those murdered guests. I'm not a fan of Alan Dershowitz at all. It's to his credit that his firm aids the underprivileged; but, the fact he represented a heinous murderer, OJ Simpson, is unforgivable. Alan's family was quite gifted at working the system and were able to rescue some relatives from the Nazi's. Carol King's story demonstrated the difficulty of tracing Jewish ancestors in Eastern Europe because, as explained, few records survive. She was extremely lucky that some records for her family were found which took one of her lines back to the 1790's. So never give up even though you've been told it's unlikely the records survived. Also Carol's family had a complete change of surnames which adds to the challenge of tracing the family.

A statement made by Prof. Gates about it being more convenient to convert to Christianity made me think about my own family. I believe my family converted to Catholicism because of persecution. I also believe they became very committed Catholics. One of my Great Grandparents' children was named Francis Xavier which demonstrates a deep affinity with the church.

I missed the fact Episode 7 didn't feature DNA results. I just finished listening to a webinar about "Finding Your Roots" and understand that episode 10 will focus much more on DNA testing, which should be interesting. Another interesting fact is 3 to 4 hours of interviews with guests are shot for each episode. According to Prof. Gates all of the guests are overjoyed by the family information they get from the show. Like most people the guests have a personal knowledge of their family history going back only a generation or two.

The changes to AncestryDNA are coming soon according to [their blog](#). Another [AncestryDNA blog post](#) referring to the issue of IBS matches stated that cousin matching using their current technique produced too many false matches for Hispanics and Jews. This is probably why I have so many Mexican matches when my family came from Nicaragua. Similar over estimations were found with other ethnic groups. According to the AncestryDNA blog we will be notified regarding downloading our current match information so we can keep the notes etc. on our current matches.

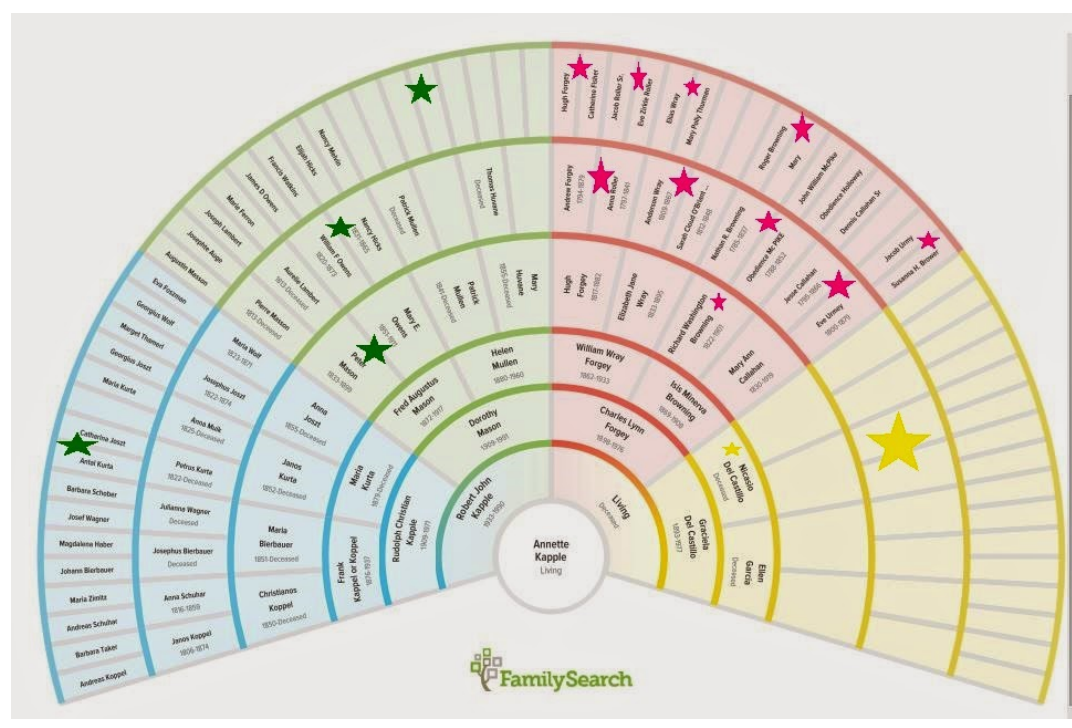
I've been slowly listening to the i4GG conference videos. I watched the ["Getting the Most from AncestryDNA"](#) presentation the other day. Using a fan chart to see where your matches are on your tree was a great idea I got from this presentation. It clearly shows that most of my matches are out at 5 generations and beyond. This is because we have fewer close cousins.

Another highlight of the ["Getting the Most from AncestryDNA"](#) presentation was the portion about admixture. The presenter showed her admixture results side by side with her sisters. Of course these results seemed to match up as expected (an employee of Ancestry wouldn't show any that didn't). It was so funny when someone asked from the audience what if a child had more Irish admixture than both her parents? Of course this got a laugh from the knowledgeable audience. This wasn't easily answered. It was only explained that admixture was still being worked on.

I have really enjoyed [Hoosier Daddy's](#) blog posts. His November 3 post really hit home. His experiences communicating with matches are so relatable. I've often noticed the same thing he discovered, that many of my matches on certain couples are actually close relatives to one another, who may have tested together. I've had relatives tested and so have many other people, so multiple matches with one ancestral couple actually come from a single descendant line.

Hoosier Daddy's post also made me wonder if telling matches you are looking for adoptee information is a good idea in your first communication? I'm thinking some people may be fearful of becoming involved with a possibly touchy situation?

I'm impatiently waiting to see what happens with the AncestryDNA changes and also waiting for another sale on their kits.



Posted by **Annette** at **5:20 PM**

No comments:



Wednesday, October 29, 2014

## DNA News: Episode 6 of "Finding Your Roots" & 7cM and 700 SNP Threshold

**Annette Kapple**

**Predicted relationship: 3rd Cousins**  
 Possible range: 3rd - 4th cousins ( [View](#) )  
 Confidence: 98%

Add note

Episode 6 of "**Finding Your Roots**" was another interesting episode. The theme was enslaved ancestors. A highlight of the episode was the slave receipt for one of Nas' ancestors. I've never seen one of those before. Valerie Jarrett turned out to be 49% European, which wasn't surprising. She was surprised that Native American ancestry showed up in her DNA ethnicity results. She came out to be 5 % Native American. Her slave owner ancestors were wealthy, willing and able to cultivate her ancestor's intellect and provide materially for him. One of her ancestors attended MIT. It was uncommon for the mulatto children of slave owners to be treated like their legitimate children. It was very nice to see how the former slave couples legalized their informal slave marriages after they were freed. This episode gave substance to people who were often just nameless property while enslaved.

Two whole people, so far, at AncestryDNA agreed to compare results with me at GEDmatch. These matches pointed, again, to the problem of the too strict criteria for matches at Family Tree DNA. I had around half a dozen people to compare these matches with. When looking

at the total cM's, even turning down the shared cM's to 1, some of these matches would not pass the strict matching requirements at Family Tree DNA, even though they do share DNA segments over 10 cMs and have a proven paper trail relationship to my family. The 14.1 cM segment illustrated here is an example. I found other good matches that don't add up to 20 total cM's either. I think the 7 cM and 700 SNP threshold at GEDmatch should be a model for the testing companies to follow. They can rank the matches according to their own system, but please give us all of our matches that fall in the 7 cM and 700 SNP range. Family Tree DNA is great for identifying parents and close cousins, but as a genealogist I'm interested in more distant relatives.

Minimum threshold size to be included in total = 700 SNPs  
Mismatch-bunching Limit = 350 SNPs  
Minimum segment cM to be included in total = 1.0 cM

Chr	Start Location	End Location	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs
1	165724448	180598459	14.1	3591
2	54485107	57922245	2.1	873
2	184997422	190652410	2.1	808

Largest segment = 14.1 cM  
Total of segments >= 1 cM = 18.3 cM  
Comparison took 0.10754 seconds.

I watched this [great video](#) which featured a presenter from AncestryDNA. It's filled with interesting information about their DNA testing program. The number of kits being processed every month is staggering! They process 30,000 to 50,000 kits per month.

I'm not completely emotionally prepared for the coming changes to our match lists at Ancestry. When I saw the new DNA symbol on the Ancestry matches' pages I jumped. I wondered if that meant we would see the changes Ancestry has been promising sooner rather than later? I'm hoping we don't see another Family Tree DNA scenario with limited matches. I'm hoping it's more like 23andMe, which has a reasonable threshold similar to GEDmatch.

I've been continuing to create chromosome charts with segments from our matches. I'm collecting Forgey surname related segments. I used a suggestion from [Kitty's blog](#) to name the segments after ancestral couples. Here are the people the Forgeys came from.



Posted by [Annette](#) at [7:41 PM](#) 1 comment: [↗](#)



Wednesday, October 22, 2014

## DNA News: Two Outstanding Genealogy Shows And Evaluating Matches

Last night I binged watched two excellent family history shows. CNN's "[Roots Our Journey Home](#)" and PBS' "[Finding Your Roots](#)". Didn't go to bed until 1 am (again).

"Finding Your Roots" episode 5 was one of the best of the this season. Celebrity chefs were featured in this all male episode "The Melting Pot". My Mom loved the show "Simply Ming" so he is very familiar to me. Great to see the role his family played in Chinese history. His enormous family tree was great to see rolled out. Wonderful that a stele with his ancestor's names was the only one which survived the cultural revolution in his particular ancestral location. He is very fortunate. Tom Colicchio's immigrant ancestors were much like mine. My Great-Grandmother traveled back and forth from America to her Village in Austro/Hungary. Her husband was working first in Allentown, PA then Chicago, Ill. She often made the trip with several small children accompanying her. Aaron Sanchez' family's roots are in Sonora Mexico, not far from border with the US. The family was a target of hostility during the Mexican Revolution which forced the family to flee with their large herd of cattle to the US. Aaron's DNA results were very interesting to me since I have some Central American heritage. His mix of European, Native American and African were typical for Central and South America too.

The "Roots our Journey Home" show on CNN borrowed heavily from "Finding Your Roots". The Anderson Cooper segment repeated many facts first presented when he was a guest on "Finding Your Roots". It was interesting to see Anderson visiting family graves. I thought this show was a nice mix of emotionally connecting with ancestors and tongue in cheek segments. They also used DNA results to fill in the blanks.

It was announced this week that 23andMe would be partnering with My Heritage. If they integrate the trees with the DNA results like they do at AncestryDNA it could make 23andMe a more useful resource. The biggest problem at 23andMe is the lack cooperation of those who have tested with them. More than half my cousin's matches won't even share their own names let alone any ancestral surnames.

Last week a test result came back for our Owens line. Sadly Ancestry doesn't release segment information. Fortunately a descendant of John Melvin and Mary Redden (my fifth great-grandparents) agreed to compare with us at GEDmatch. We compared with his grandmother and him. We shared varying amounts of DNA from as small as 4.6 cM's up to 50 cM's total. We can now call a segment five of us share on chromosome 1 a Melvin family segment. We are all around the fourth cousin range relationship to his grandmother. After doing a few comparisons of Ancestry results at GEDmatch I'm finding their prediction process occasionally works, but some valid cousin matches aren't showing up as close matches? Also some of the high confidence matches aren't as good as they look when you compare at GEDmatch.

The Family Tree DNA process for determining matches isn't any better. The scientists at Family Tree DNA aren't as well versed with autosomal DNA as they are with Y and mtDNA. As one of them stated at an ISOGG presentation, paraphrasing, what I tell you now may turn out to be wrong in hindsight. From a past presentation by the founder of Family Tree DNA his scientists don't believe autosomal DNA is useful beyond 4 generations. That demonstrates a lack of knowledge of the subject. Most of our matches are at 4 generations and beyond.

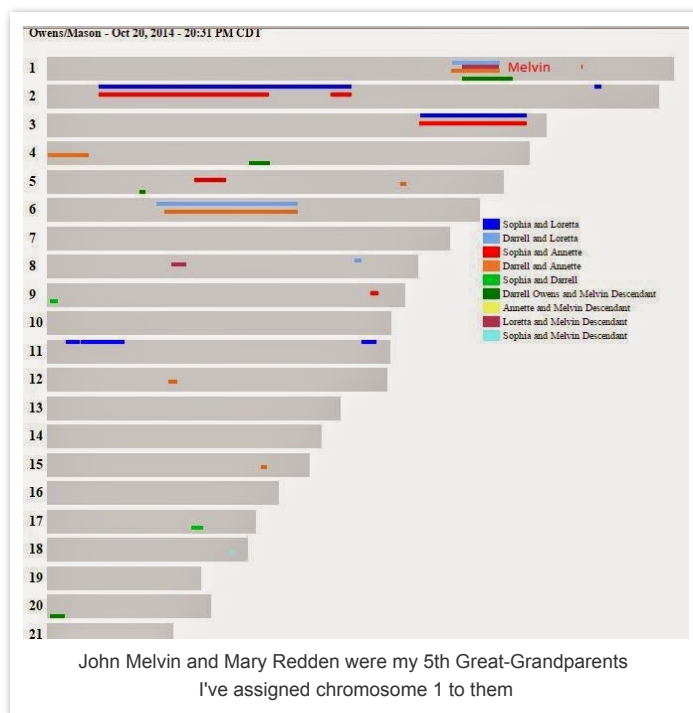


Female	3rd to Distant Cousin 0.25% shared, 1 segment
Male	3rd to Distant Cousin 0.25% shared, 1 segment
Female	3rd to Distant Cousin 0.25% shared, 1 segment
Male	3rd to Distant Cousin 0.25% shared, 1 segment
Male	3rd to Distant Cousin 0.25% shared, 1 segment
Female	3rd to Distant Cousin 0.25% shared, 1 segment
Male	3rd to Distant Cousin 0.25% shared, 1 segment
Male	3rd to Distant Cousin 0.25% shared, 1 segment

23andMe Zombies



Their use of total shared cMs as a criteria for determining matches causes many good matches to be discarded. Looking at my proven matches at Ancestry a few haven't shared the 20 total cMs required by FTDNA. I can't find any common ancestors with most of my Family Tree DNA matches. If they eliminated the 20 cM requirement and instead gave us all our matches sharing 7 cM segments or higher it would help us find more cousins.



Posted by **Annette** at 9:24 PM

No comments:



Saturday, October 18, 2014

## DNA News: Episode 4 of "Finding Your Roots" & Overwhelmed With New Information



Episode 4 of "Finding Your Roots" was another interesting episode with fun DNA results. The episode theme was Civil Rights and Freedom. Ben Affleck's mother was a Freedom Rider in the 1960's. It was so funny to hear the former President of the NAACP, Ben Jealous, is mostly white only 18% African. On the flip side Khandi Alexander had more African than she expected, she seemed to change her identification from black to African. The most moving

story in this episode was how one of Ben Jealous' ancestors purchased his freedom, and that of his wife and children. He was able to do this because he was a trained shoemaker, an unusual occupation for a slave.

It was great to see an explanation of how DNA testing works in this episode. Instead of showing the stock film blood vials they showed the accurate testing process and explained that saliva was used. I'm sure more people would pursue a saliva test rather than a blood test. I hope this encourages more people to test.

Looking at Ben Jealous I could predict he had a high percentage of European. Another guest on a previous show was quite dark complected and turned out to have more European than he expected. This brings me to my current projects. Predictions based on appearances can turn out to be correct or incorrect. The genealogical proof standard requires inferences drawn from appearances to be checked out by doing a reasonably exhaustive search. I'm turning more and more to DNA to support my inferences.

In mid 2001 I began focusing my genealogy research on the Mason family line. I found some information about the family posted on message boards, which were the popular social networking media at the time. I received some great leads from a 3rd cousin, Sophia Preston. She posted some information about our common Mason line. She referred me to another Mason researcher with additional information. With their help I discovered the locations of our Masson family in Quebec, Canada. It was easy to trace the family back hundreds of years due to the fact that transcriptions of the extensive record collections in Quebec were available online at this point.

After quickly putting together a huge family tree for the Mason line I moved to my ancestor Peter Mason's American wife's family. His wife was Mary Owens. That's what I started with in 2001. I had a great lead on her parents when I found two of her sister's living with the Mason family in 1880 in Mattoon, IL. It was easy to find them living with their father in 1870 in Mattoon, IL. His name was William F. Owens. I later found a Nancy Owens wife of William F. buried in a local cemetery. She would have been in the right age range to be the mother of my Mary Mason, and her siblings. Their mother was not in his household in 1870, she was probably the Nancy I found in the cemetery who died in 1865?

According to the children of William F. he was born in Kentucky, and their mother was born in Ohio. I looked for a marriage for a William F. Owens to a Nancy. I found such a marriage in Clermont, Ohio. A William F. Owens married a Nancy Hicks in Clermont, and they matched the Census description regarding where they were born. I found them in 1850 with two sons, James H. and John W. living in Clermont, Ohio. From there I looked for them in 1860. At that point in time the online Census information was sparse and the search function didn't always show matches with similar names. It took many months before I found them listed with the name spelled Owen and initials used instead of full names. I found Mary and all her siblings including James H. and John W. from the 1850 Census. These eldest siblings had disappeared from the area in Mattoon, Illinois early on.

By March 2002 I was able to find proof that Mary's mother's maiden name was Hicks. It came from a marriage record for her sister which listed her mother as Nancy Hicks, and her father was listed as William F.. Her own marriage record from a decade before did not contain her parents' names.

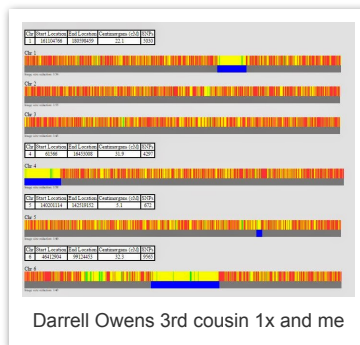
It wasn't until fairly recently that I found out what became of William F. and Nancy's eldest sons. I found some information about them at Find-a-grave and made contact with descendants through this site (you can read my 2012 post [here](#). I later exchanged info with Pam and Justin.) I also found more information posted in Ancestry trees. Pam and Justin provided me with loads of additional information. I also discovered that one of the male Owens in my line Y DNA tested which helped confirm some of my inferences about this

Owens ancestral line.

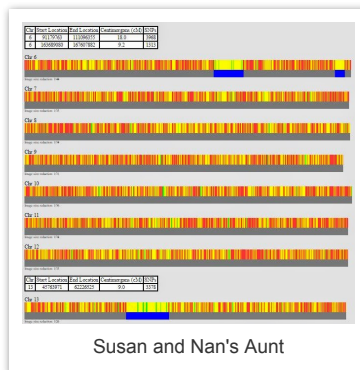
I was fairly confident I had traced this line correctly. I was a little apprehensive because I didn't have very much info about my Great-Grandfather Mason. I had heard he was French Canadian and used this knowledge to find his family in the Census. I believed I found him with the correct family. I had not known that he was originally from Mattoon, Ill. I was only aware of the family living in Chicago. I asked an Aunt and she said she believed I was on the correct track, and he was from Mattoon.

All of my apprehensiveness disappeared when the third cousin I had located on the message board years earlier tested at 23andme. We compared at GEDmatch and there was absolutely no doubt we were from the same Mason family from Mattoon. We shared more DNA than most third cousins. So the Mason line was confirmed with DNA.

I purchased an AncestryDNA kit on sale in August. I decided to give it to an Owens/ Hicks line cousin to confirm this relationship and hopefully find additional cousins in these lines. The results came in on last Wednesday, exactly 3 weeks after it was received. We were predicted to be 3rd cousins by Ancestry (great news!). We are actually 3rd cousins once removed, good prediction. Unfortunately Ancestry's raw data download feature was down until yesterday. It was so hard to wait for this to be fixed. I was on pins and needles the whole time. It was incredible to see how much DNA we shared in common. We had some 30 cM segments. There was a chance we wouldn't share any DNA at all. Our Cousin Sophia shared a 9 cm segment on a different chromosome, a lot less than either my Aunt or myself. That's the fickle nature of DNA inheritance.



Another great match came in on the same day. My 5th cousin Nan Harvey's Aunt's results also came in on Wednesday. She turned out to be a much stronger match with my Mom and I than Nan. So now we have some good sized segments for triangulation. She was predicted to be a 4th to 6th cousin to both my Mom and I, which is the correct range. My cousin Susan is actually Nan's aunt's strongest match.



With our growing segment collection I'm hoping to reconstruct some of these lines.

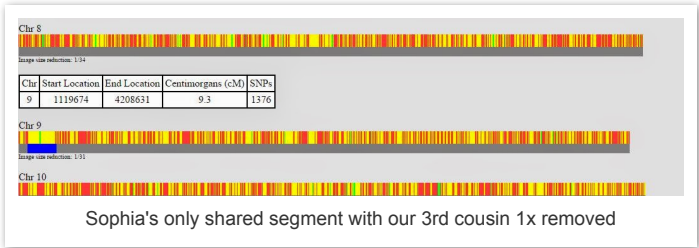
There are so many changes occurring in the genealogy industry. Family Tree DNA released news about many new features which will be offered to customers at their group administrator conference. They rolled out one of those changes this week offering those who upload raw data from AncestryDNA or 23andme (only v.3) the opportunity to try their service for free. They can see their highest ranked 20 matches for free. The price to see all of your matches is \$39, which doesn't include the myOrigins feature. They also announced a social networking platform will be added to the site. Sharing photos and documents etc. should make the site more interesting to use. The ability for the public to search Family Tree DNA trees for their surnames should boost interest in testing. I would love to see the number of testers grow.

GEDmatch is undergoing some changes too. You will be able to access more tools if you donate \$10. Using family kits to create ancestors' kit sounds interesting.

I mentioned finding an Owens cousin at Ancestry.com. The value of the trees and information

attached to them can't be over estimated. Most of my breakthroughs at Ancestry have been through documents attached to trees. A Wray line cousin contacted me to let me know she uploaded some pictures and manuscripts she found at their Kansas family home. I've never been to Kansas and would never have seen all of this had it not been for the networking opportunity provided by Ancestry.com. The old forums and mailing lists were helpful but didn't allow you to share documents and photos. It's been great with sites like Ancestry and Facebook that we can share information and coordinate DNA testing and find cousins to test.

I've had so much information coming at me so fast I need to stop researching for a while and start adding my new facts to my tree and my new segment information to **Genome Mate** .



Posted by **Annette** at **5:15 PM** 1 comment:

Tuesday, October 14, 2014

# AncestryDNA Phasing FFFFF..ail!

Chr	Start Location	End Location	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs
20	55589409	62374274	22.4	2250

Chr 20

Image size reduction: 1:18

Chr 21

Image size reduction: 1:10

Chr 22

Image size reduction: 1:10

Largest segment = 22.4 cM

Total of segments &gt; 3 cM = 37.4 cM



- Member since 2002, last logged in today

Send message

**Predicted relationship: Distant Cousins**Possible range: 5th - 8th cousins ( [What does this mean?](#) )

Confidence: Very Low

Add note

I listened to the explanation of the AncestryDNA phasing process via a video from i4GG. It seemed like a good idea. Now I'm thinking it's not really a good idea; especially when there is no way to see the segments you share with matches. I don't want phasing unless I can see the segments!

I found several new Ancestry matches at GEDmatch. I was shocked to find that one very low confidence match shared a 22.4 cM segment with me. I later checked to see if he matched my Mom and he shared the same 22.4 cM segment with her. This was a phasing fail because obviously I received this segment from my Mom. This was judged to be a "very" low confidence match for both of us. I can't find a common ancestor at this point. It may be that this person matches us many generations ago. It could be what CeCe Moore called a "sticky segment" which remains intact for hundreds of years? I want to see matches like these ranked higher? When AncestryDNA prunes our matches I'm hoping they don't eliminate matches with shared segments 10 cMs or larger?

We need to know more about the segments we share with matches. There is no way to get around 10,000 matches to compare at GEDmatch. If everyone at AncestryDNA uploaded to GEDmatch the servers would probably crash and burn, so that's not an option.

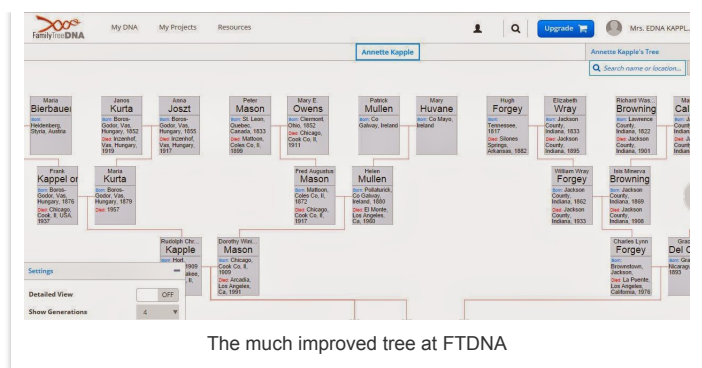
PS My Cousin Susan also shares the same 22.4 cM segment with the very same match (thanks Nan!)

Posted by **Annette** at **5:20 PM**    1 comment:   

Thursday, October 9, 2014

## DNA News: "Finding Your Roots Ep.3"Light Bulb Moment Plus Improvements at FTDNA and Ancestry?





The much improved tree at FTDNA

Episode 3 of "Finding Your Roots" featured guests known for story telling. The episode focused mainly on Civil War ancestry, which was very fascinating. I love Anderson Cooper so I found his segments very interesting. I had thought his Dad also came from a wealthy family, and was surprised his roots were Southern and humble. Interesting that one of his ancestors was killed by a slave. I'll have to keep his ancestor Robert Fletcher Campbell in mind as I trace my Campell line. I'm stuck on Sarah Campbell who was born around 1810 somewhere in the South? It would be fantastic to be related to Anderson Cooper. Great to see there is a relationship between Ken Burns and Abraham Lincoln. Glad that Ken Burn's Y DNA could be linked to Robert Burns, which he had been wanting to know. The most moving parts of the episode dealt with loss of Anderson Cooper's father and brother, and Ken Burns loss of his mother.

Anna Deavere Smith's ancestors were also interesting. One of her ancestors was involved in the burial of Civil War troops at Gettysburg. Her mtDNA was used to trace her maternal line to a tribe in Africa. A light bulb went off in my brain, and I thought maybe I can use mtDNA on my Kappel/Kurta line and possibly my Owens line to glean more insight into the ethnic origins of these families. This all hinges on someone carrying the mtDNA for those lines agreeing to test. There is a good possibility I might be able to persuade a 2nd cousin or 1st cousin 1x removed to test. However, it may take some time because they don't know me and I don't know them. The Y and mtDNA tests are the most straight forward tests when it comes to interpreting the results. It's nice to get a simple answer sometimes, especially after wrestling with the admixture results from autosomal DNA.

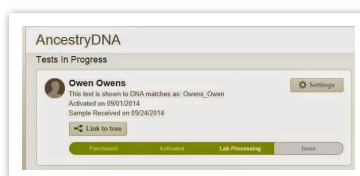
Immediately after the show ended I began searching for information about Grandfather Rudolph Kapple's sisters. I knew one sister's married name was Salamon, and so I began Googling her full name, Bertha Salamon. I couldn't believe I immediately struck gold! I found her obituary which gave her sister Rose's married name, which I didn't have. Bertha's Obituary named her own children giving me candidates for mtDNA testing. She had 4 living named children in 2002, which included 2 daughters, and 15 grandchildren. Rose's full name, Rose Varnak, led me to her obituary in which 4 children were named and of those 2 were living. It was stated she had 15 grandchildren and 45 great-grand children. I did look for death information for them in the early 2000's and couldn't find anything. I know why I couldn't find anything then, they were still alive. I didn't expect them to live into their 90's since their brother Rudolph died in his 60's, and their parents died well before that age too. All of this is so great! I'm hoping this leads to some kind of meaningful contact with their descendants. I would love to see more pictures of my Grandfather Rudolph. I've never seen any photo of his parents or siblings, and would love to see those too. If I had known the sibling were still alive when I started out researching I would have tried to make contact immediately. I feel like I missed a great opportunity to get more information, and also just connect with some of my Great Aunts. I was only aware of my Great-Grandparents having 11 children? One obit said there were 12. Now I'm wondering if this is true, and if so what happened to that child?

Another line which may benefit from mtDNA testing is the John Owens Indian Trader line. We

know John Owens Sr. traded with Indians during the mid 1700's in Pennsylvania. We know, from a contemporary newspaper account, that he had an Indian wife. He had at least two wives. We don't know which wife our family descends from or even whether both wives were Indians ? If we could identify at least one of his wives with mtDNA we might be able to confirm whether at least some of John Owens children were half Native American. It isn't known whether he fathered any children with his Indian wife. We know he had at least a couple of daughters, and if a straight maternal line of inheritance can be found we may find the smoking gun information.

After locating the names of children and grandchildren of my great-aunts I searched on these names at Family Tree DNA. I located a tree with one of the names on it and was happy to see a new detailed view which saves time. You don't have to click to get details about an individual now. The names are now in larger print, so when you zoom in you can still read them. I'm still not crazy about the new tree layout (still too scattered), but it's easier to use with the larger names and details. I also found that one of my our Brennenman matches at AncestryDNA just showed up on my Mom's FTDNA match list.

AncestryDNA customers are in suspense right now over the impending changes that will radically change this product. Most of the details are still secret. One thing which is known is the number of matches will be drastically reduced. This was also discussed at i4gg.



Ancestry had been identifying ancient segments of DNA shared by thousands of people, but supposedly not helpful because they are out the genealogical timeframe. Everyone is aware of the fact that the very low confidence matches are the most abundant, and impossible to sort through because of their number. I'm hoping this is a good change and they don't weed out good matches? Lucky I have downloaded the information for a majority of my matches. The unlucky thing is I'm waiting for more Owens DNA results at Ancestry and I'm wondering how these results might be affected? I'm hoping the changes don't go into effect until we get those results. The test kit was received on September 24, and I'm also wondering if the results will be held up by the changes?

I seem to have a pile up of segment matches on chromosome 19 at FTDNA. Reviewing these matches again, I've noticed none of them match me on my Mom's side? I'm wondering if these matches relate to me through either the French Canadian population or Ashkenazi populations?

No chromosome browser is apparently still the mantra at AncestryDNA. I don't now where the Geneticists at Ancestry got their degrees? They don't seem to understand the mechanics of segment matching for ancestry.

You can read more about the coming changes at Ancestry at Roberta Estes' blog post "[DNA Day At Ancestry](#)."

o FTDNA	Shon Cunningham	?	19	19	24	8.2	=====
o FTDNA	Charlie M Smaltz (Kohl)	?	19	20	35	8.9	=====
o FTDNA	David Arthur Gibbs	?	19	20	35	8.9	=====
o FTDNA	Grace Josephine Holt	?	19	20	35	8.9	=====
o FTDNA	Kim W R Baldwin	?	19	20	35	8.9	=====
o FTDNA	Robyn Elizabeth Huttemann	?	19	20	35	8.9	=====
o FTDNA	Walter M Williamson	?	19	20	35	8.9	=====
o FTDNA	Frank Joseph Jason	?	19	20	34	8.2	=====
o FTDNA	Maria o Allrecht	?	19	20	34	8.2	=====
o FTDNA	Albert Knight Leach	?	19	20	34	7.8	=====
o FTDNA	Coreen Helsdorffer	?	19	20	34	7.8	=====
o FTDNA	Debra Ann Markley	?	19	20	34	7.8	=====
o FTDNA	Francis Heck	?	19	20	34	7.8	=====
o FTDNA	Gary Purviance	?	19	20	34	7.8	=====
o FTDNA	Harry Richard Clark	?	19	20	34	7.8	=====
o FTDNA	Karin Maria Grebert	?	19	20	34	7.8	=====
o FTDNA	Kathy Arlene Schneider	?	19	20	34	7.8	=====
o FTDNA	Kenneth Charles Winch	?	19	20	34	7.8	=====
o FTDNA	MARCOS CORREIA SILVA	?	19	20	34	7.8	=====
o FTDNA	Margaret Gibson Montgomery	?	19	20	34	7.8	=====
o FTDNA	Michael David Colton	?	19	20	34	7.8	=====
o FTDNA	Sloan Spence Mason	?	19	20	34	7.8	=====
o FTDNA	Dorothy Edith Spearman	?	19	20	34	7.8	=====
o FTDNA	Paul Edwin Peachey	?	19	20	34	7.8	=====
o FTDNA	Benjamin Cooke Permenter	?	19	20	35	7.3	=====
o FTDNA	David Joseph Turner	?	19	20	35	8.3	=====
o FTDNA	Harold Hugh Rohrer	?	19	20	35	8.3	=====
o FTDNA	Robert Elmer	?	19	20	34	7.8	=====

Some Segment pile up from FTDNA

Posted by [Annette](#) at [11:48 AM](#) 3 comments: 

Monday, October 6, 2014

## DNA: Geneticists vs. Anthropologists

From Blood to DNA, From "Tribe" to "Race..."



Americans are competitive Android users vs. iPhone users for instance. In the academic community surrounding the human population field of study it's Geneticists vs. Social Scientists. These studies should be interdisciplinary, but the personalities of these researchers tend to clash. Does cultural identity make you a member of an ethnic group or is it genetics? It's a very interesting question. I had been identifying with Jewish community based on the perceived origin of my surname. Genetic testing isn't supporting that connection. Actually I might be Sephardic Jewish, but that's difficult to prove through DNA.

I listened to this UC Berkley lecture "[From Blood to DNA, From "Tribe" to "Race": Science, Whiteness & Property](#)." A very interesting discussion. The differences in approaching the subject of ethnic group membership are apparent in this lecture. I'm in the Social Sciences camp because that was my undergraduate major. Social Scientists feel cultural identity is as important as Genetic inheritance. I believe Social Scientists feel like this view point isn't shared by the Geneticists. Spencer Wells came under some criticism because Prof. Tallbear felt some of his remarks were culturally insensitive. She also questioned the scientific methods employed by the Genographic project? "Skip Gates" came under even more criticism in this lecture than Spencer Wells. The lecturers felt the results of the consumer DNA tests were questionable.

Prof. Tallbear stated that in the past land had been the commodity that was sought after by the European Americans, now it's Native American DNA. She questioned whether modern Native American DNA would be useful? It's impossible to find unmixed North American Native American populations.

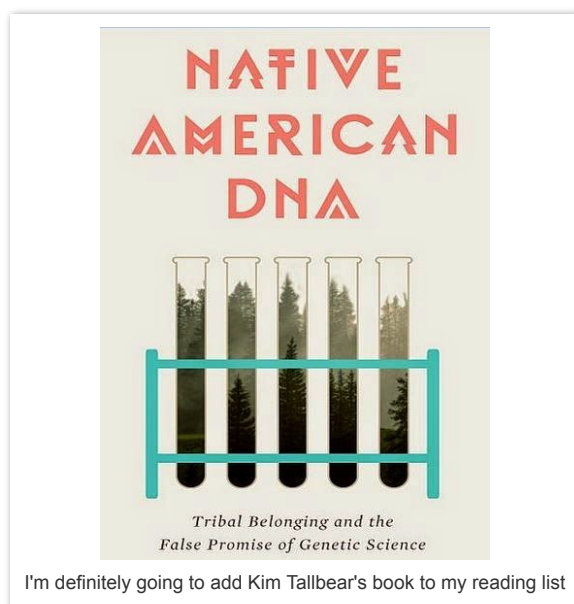
Another aspect of DNA that was discussed is how some Tribes are using it to determine Tribal membership. In the past they used the blood rule of 1/4 Native American to admit someone into a tribe. This was solely based on tracing the family tree. With casino money in play the casino tribes want to limit membership. Casino tribes tend to use DNA tests for membership because this keeps the tribal membership numbers low, and payments to current members high. I thought Prof. Tallbear said the Casino tribes were using parentage

DNA testing and ethnicity testing, not sure if they use the ethnicity tests? The non Casino tribes sometimes use parentage testing, but don't always require it.

The 1 drop rule and 1/4 rule were strange categorizations. Why would 1/4 Native American legally make you native American; yet one drop of African blood make you African? Racism and the need to limit the number of Native Americans created these categories.

The Lecturers also brought up a court case involving African Americans who were Naturalized as Cherokee but weren't genetically Native American. This has brought up the question of whether Cherokee membership should be based on Naturalization or genetics?

As they stated in the video they are Social Scientists and not Geneticists, so some of their statements about what can be discovered using DNA were wrong. Full sequencing individuals with large amounts of Native American ancestry would be helpful. They're right about DNA testing helping those with mainly European ancestry; and Tribes worry about the US Federal Government using the results to determine Tribal recognition. The Natives American have little to gain and potentially could lose land and benefits, but their results would help identify Native America admixture. Will those Europeans ever stop pestering the Native Americans because they need something from them? I'm feeling a little selfish now.



Posted by **Annette** at **2:14 PM**

No comments:



Wednesday, October 1, 2014

## DNA News: "Finding Your Roots" Review And Very Low Confidence Comparisons

I enjoyed the 2nd episode of the new season of "Finding Your Roots" on PBS. The last show focused on finding out more about absent fathers' lines. This show focused on sports heros. I could relate to Derek Jeter in the fact that I didn't know the origins of my Kapple surname until I did some research in the 1990's, which started my genealogy obsession. When you have an unusual surname people always ask where the name is from? It was great that it was possible to determine the origins of the name Jeter. That's a great gift for the Jeter family.

The only reservations I had about last night's episode was the language used when presenting DNA results. When Rebecca Lobo was told exactly which line her Ashkenazi admixture came from, I thought Dr. Gates was overstepping a little. It does seem, most likely, she got the admixture from the stated line (an Austrian line). Documentary evidence leads to that belief too, but you never know for sure unless you test more family members. Working with my DNA admixture results I was fooled a few times when trying to make an educated guess about where an admixture came from. It wasn't clear to me that I was wrong until I had more relatives tested. Ashkenazi is one of the admixtures which is easy to identify. The percentages are tricky though. She is predicted to be 10% Ashkenazi, so Dr. Gates surmised from that percentage that this came down from a particular great-grandparent based on rough inheritance percentages. Since inheritance is random, the only percentages we know for certain are that we inherit 50% of our DNA from each parent, after that generation there can be more variation in inheritance. For instance last week we learned that someone's father was substantially Ashkenazi according to available documents. This person's DNA results came out to be 12% percent Ashkenazi. So if we based our prediction of where this DNA came from we would guess farther back in time than parent based on estimates using average inheritance. Admixture percentages can fool you, and you can get admixture from more than one line. There is no way to say with 100% confidence which ancestor you got a particular admixture from, unless you test many relatives. When I watched this show before I got involved in autosomal testing and I heard, for instance, Dr. Gates say that a tradition of Native American ancestry was wrong based on DNA testing I believed that to be true. Since then I've learned that we don't inherit DNA from all of our ancestors; so it's possible a family tradition of Native American ancestry may be true even if you don't see it in your DNA results. So it's still possible Billy Jean King has some Native American roots?

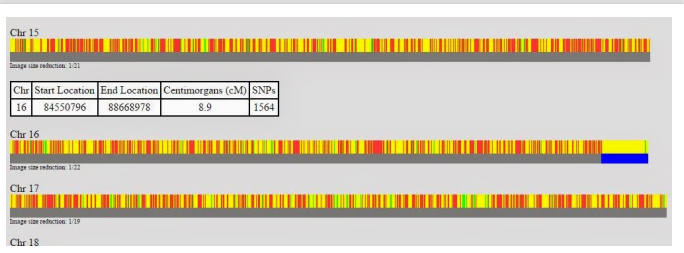
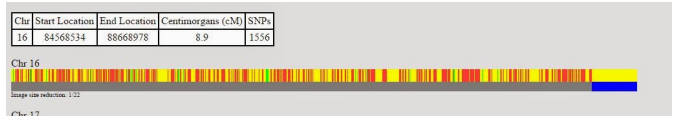
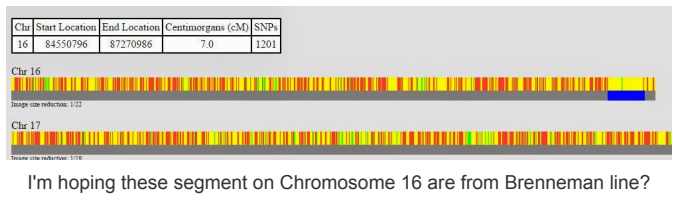
Dr. Gates did use the word "suggests" when talking about results sometimes. The word "suggests" is often the best word to use when talking about results.

I'm convinced that Derek Jeter is descended from the family that owned his family. Y tests are more reliable than autosomal (autosomal testing is most reliable for close relatives). He is also most likely descended from the slave owner as stated. However, it's not 100% positive. I believe Dr. Gates did say that this connection was most likely the case, but didn't say 100% certain like he did with Rebecca Lobo. You can't look at DNA and say it came from a particular person or line with 100% certainty. With Y DNA you can only say you are definitely related or definitely not related using the test. It would be tricky to do a TV show and explain the intricacies of DNA testing. The general public probably isn't interested in learning about predictions either. They want to hear about definite conclusions. They might come away disappointed if they took a test after watching some of these episodes? Otherwise, I love the show and listen to the DNA test results with great interest.

Another point of interest is the DNA tests the guests took were blood tests. I wonder which company they used?

I was so happy to hear from someone in the Brenneman family line at Facebook. He and some of his family members had their DNA tested. He, his sister and father were low confidence matches at AncestryDNA. We compared at GEDmatch and I found out he shares a 7 cM segment with my Mom. His sister and father shared an 8.9 cM segment in the same place. I would say low confidence is a good prediction based on the amount of DNA we share. I'm always interested in comparing at GEDmatch with AncestryDNA matches because the phasing process that produces the confidence levels doesn't always work. I'm very interested in the Brenneman line. I've found trees connecting my family to this one, but I can't find documentary evidence? Hoping DNA will help?





Posted by Annette at 2:37 PM 6 comments:

Sunday, September 28, 2014

## I Think I Understand the AncestryDNA Methodology Now?? i4GG

```
rs1059702 (T;T)
rs17183814 (A;A)
rs2069827 (T;T)
rs221497 (T;T)
rs2277339 (G;G)
rs362719 (A;A)
rs4360236 (T;T)
rs705381 (C;C)
rs12416605 (C;T)
rs1543922 (C;T)
rs3827760 (C;T)
rs4696480 (A;T)
rs557881 (C;T)
rs216321 (T;T)
rs4969168 (A;A)
rs5582 (C;C)
```

Some of my own SNPs

One letter comes from Mom and one from Dad in a random order

I watched the i4GG video "[AncestryDNA matching: large-scale findings and technology breakthroughs](#)". I've been curious and confused about the methodology used by AncestryDNA. From the start their autosomal testing process has been a mysterious and secretive process, which has given rise to suspicions. They wouldn't release raw data to customers in the beginning. Many people felt they were hiding the fact that most matches

were spurious. The fact they still don't have anything like a chromosome browser still leaves us wondering about the validity of the results? On the other hand the fact they phase their results should lead to better, more confident matches than the other companies. The phasing process hadn't been completely clear to me until I listened to Dr. Julie Granka's presentation. She explained the process in greater detail. I believe understand it now?

This is my understanding of the phasing process (I never excelled in science or math in school). If anyone has a better understanding please let me know:

Dr. Julie Granka emphasized the large size of the AncestryDNA data collection, generated from over 500,000 customers, which is leading to more accurate results. The phasing process attempts to separate your results into groups representing your parents. On a position of an SNP you'll get one marker



(ACGT) from your mother and one from your father. If

for instance you are an AG on a position and your mother AG at the same position of an SNP, but your father was AT at that same position we can infer the G is from your father and the A from your mother. So your genotype, the marker combinations, come from both parents. The phasing process is designed to separate your single genotype into haplotypes you got from your mother and father. The phasing process relies on the comparison of your genotype with those of people with known haplotypes (haplotypes are just strings of markers (SNPs) shared by groups of people, ACGT's, the building blocks of DNA). Your haplotypes are then inferred from the results of these comparisons. This process is complicated by the fact positions contain markers for which they don't know which of the two markers we got from which parent, so they cannot be read in a continuous line.

There is some sort of formula for reading these scrambled marker pairs, and separating them into haplotypes for Mom and Dad. The process can misinterpret a block of DNA as a haplotype when actually it's a mix of different markers inherited from both parents, ACGTs, that happen to look like a known haplotype. It's also possible that one of your haplotypes has not been seen before. When a mismatch occurs it throws the rest of the phasing off. So it's important to limit mismatching. Their old phasing process took 7 to 10 hours for 1000 tests, and resulted in 3 errors per 100 heterozygous sites, the new process takes 5 minutes and results in only 1 error. So the process continues to be refined. Still around half of our thousands of matches are IBS, so it's not perfect.

The haplotypes are very important in the AncestryDNA matching process. In order to be a high confidence match your match has to share a certain amount of DNA plus belong to the same haplotype on that particular segment.

Sometimes these haplotypes proliferated because they were advantageous. Dr. Granka used the example of lactose intolerance. Ancient populations were all lactose intolerant. When animals were domesticated and their milk began being used the genetic mutation which allowed milk to be drunk was an advantage. This gave that person and their descendants an advantage which allowed them to get more nourishment and reproduce at a higher rate. So we all share some of these blocks because they provided a genetic advantage.

The fact that many people share the same DNA blocks presented AncestryDNA with a problem. Do all of these people share a common ancestor in the genealogical time frame? They determined blocks shared by huge numbers of people were IBS and should not be used for matching. This led to a smaller number of matches? I still have 11,000.

Some other very interesting points:

1. In a group of 200 people there is a 97% chance of finding a pair of 4th cousins

2. If you can't find evidence of an ancestor in your DNA (and they are several generations removed from you) it could be you just didn't inherit any perceptible DNA from them.
3. "Absence of evidence isn't evidence of absence."
4. We have 120,000 7th cousins, which increase your odds of finding a match at that distance
5. There are 30 million 4th cousin matches at AncestryDNA out of around 500,000 in the database
6. The average person has 5 3rd cousin matches at AncestryDNA ( I don't have any. My Mom has 7)
7. The average person has 147 4th cousin matches at AncestryDNA
8. At 20 generations we share DNA with around 1200 of our 1 million ancestors

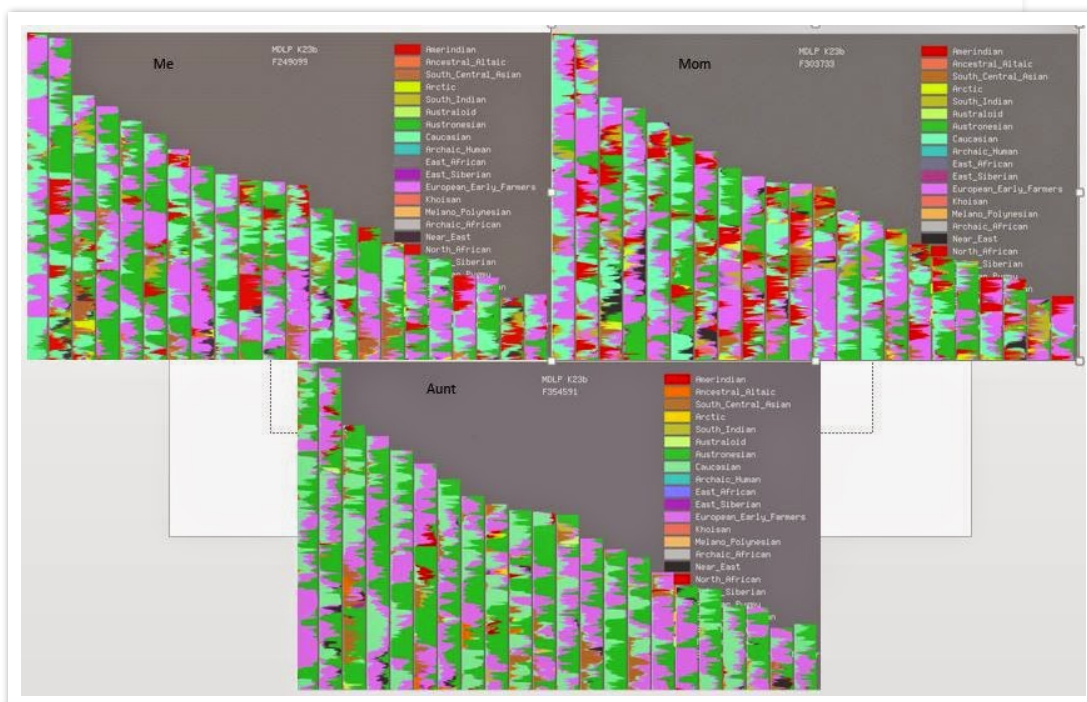
Posted by **Annette** at **11:20 AM**

No comments:



Thursday, September 25, 2014

## "Understanding Autosomal Biogeographical Ancestry Results" I4GG



I could be doing a number of things as I wait for a Nurse visit ( for mom). I could have cleaned the house or microwaved iPhone. Instead I decided to listen to Doug McDonald's I4GG conference presentation titled "**Understanding Autosomal Biogeographical Ancestry Results**".

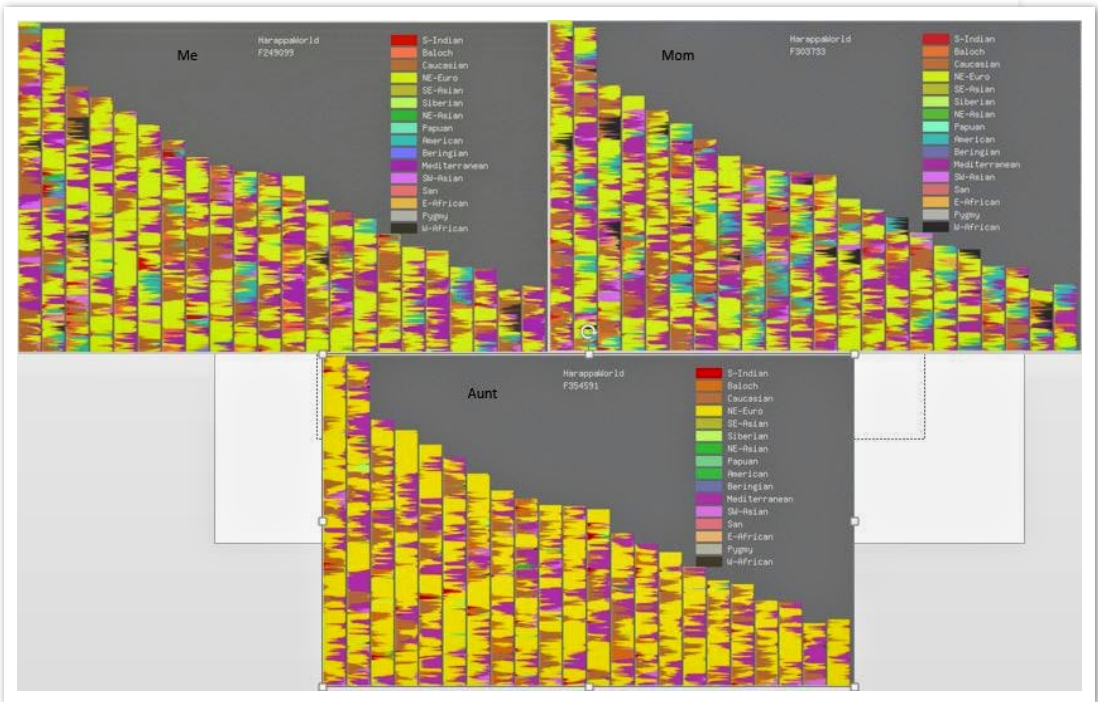
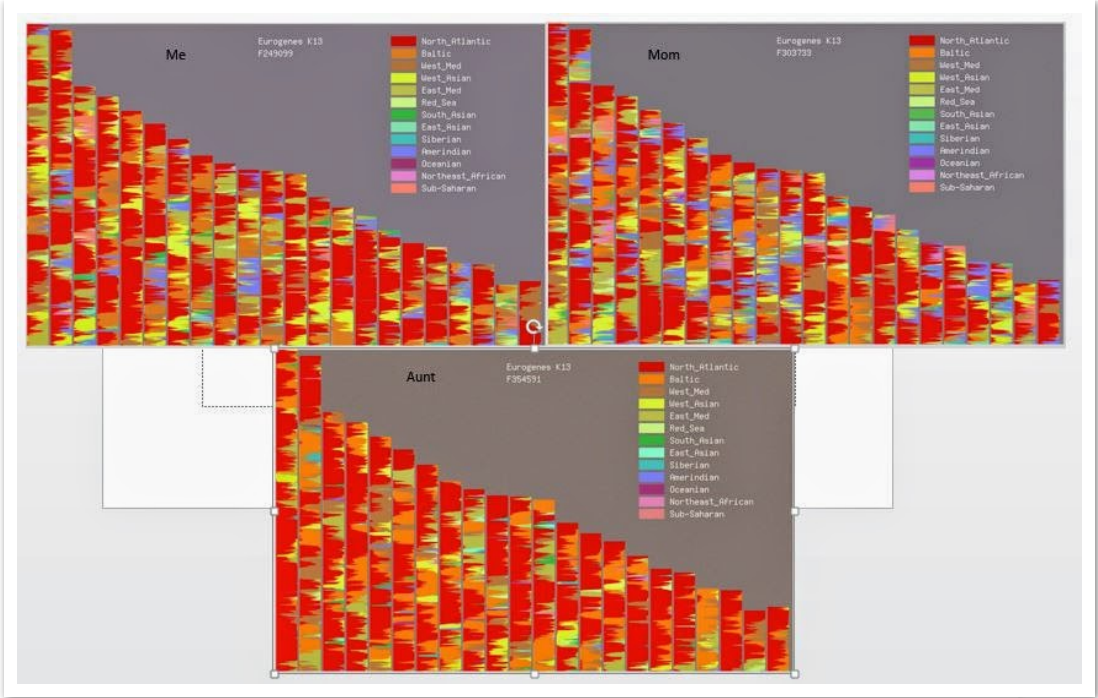
This was an excellent presentation. I followed his suggestion and analyzed and compared

the chromosome painting charts, from GEDmatch, using my Mom, Aunt, and my own kits. My Aunt represents my deceased father's line. Comparing all of our results I have a better understanding of our results. Family Tree DNA showed substantial Eastern European roots for my Aunt. Looking at one of the charts I can clearly see she has more Eastern European than I do, that's probably why I didn't have any Eastern European at Family Tree DNA. What the tests confirmed is that we are mainly European. We can infer just a little more beyond that point. The companies still have a ways to go in order to provide us with more than vague predictions.

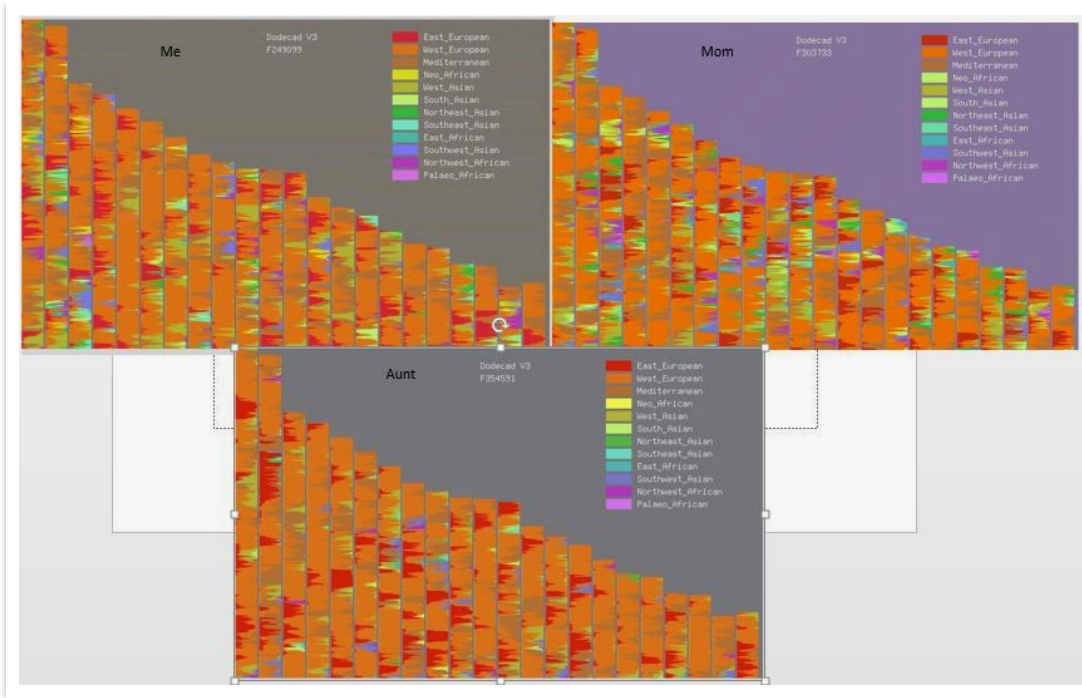
Notes from Presentation:

1. 50,000 to 300,000 markers are tested (should be to 700,000?)
2. They're all right (tests) in the big picture
3. Use 3rd party tools for analysis GEDMatch
4. You may not inherit an exact 1/4 DNA from your Grandparents due to recombination
5. At 6 to 10 generations back most of our ancestors lived in areas where their ancestors and relatives lived
6. There is a 20% chance that you would, for instance, inherit DNA from a Native American ancestor who lived 12 generations ago.
7. At 6 generation the probability is 100% that you have inherited some DNA from that Native American ancestor, but it can be hard to identify
8. The tests go back at least 2000 years in time
9. Too much overlapping of populations in Europe makes identification difficult
10. Populations less than 500 years old are too mixed to provide useful data
11. We should consider known probabilities; i.e., we should pick and choose which test results we accept based on what we already know about our ancestors
12. Certain groups are easier to differentiate like Ashkenazi
13. All companies use Monte Carlo method for best population fit
14. Important to use demixed populations
15. Use chromosome painting at GEDmatch to better understand and analyze your results
16. 23andme and AncestryDNA are the best when it come to ethnic breakdown
17. Should be 50/50 cut, in the painting, for most accurate results
18. Only trust conservative at 23andme
19. Look at where your strong matches come from
20. Not enough data for Native Americans
21. Don't trust the 3 big companies for African data they use the wrong chip
22. Don't trust African Ancestors unless you are around 90% African
23. **Affymetrix** chip is only reliable chip for Africa
24. AncestryDNA provided him with the best ethnic fit. He feels they have the best methodology
25. His results skew French but his ancestors were from Scotland, which points to ancient continental ancestry
26. Chromosome painting at 23andme very good
27. "Fully sequence lots more people in lots more groups." "400 people each in 250 groups." Look for rare mutations shared by less than 2% overall, but common to a group
28. Results should be analyzed by humans







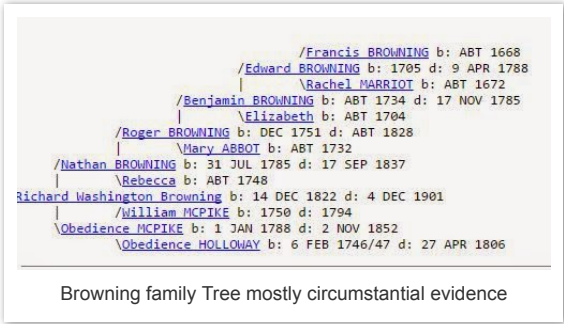


Posted by Annette at 2:00 PM    No comments:   

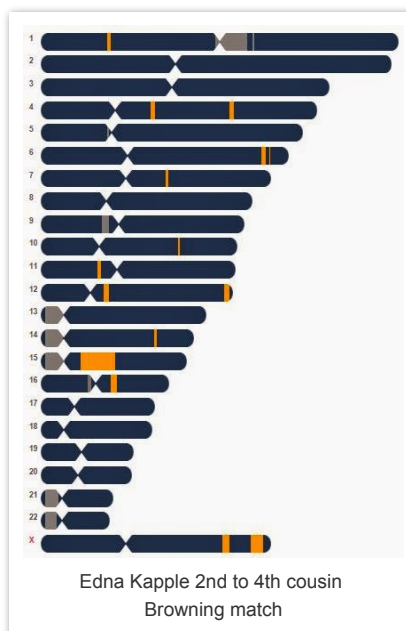
Wednesday, September 24, 2014

# DNA News: "Finding Your Roots" Premiere And X Chromosome Match Browning

I enjoyed the first episode of the new season of "Finding Your Roots" on PBS. Stephen King's experience was very much like my own. Some of his ancestors migrated to Indiana from Tennessee; just like my ancestors. Like him, I had no idea I had southern roots until some cousins shared their research with me. That information was never passed down in our family. I also found Gloria Reuben's story very interesting. Her father's ancestry was Jewish. Apparently many Jews fled Spain during the inquisition and migrated to Jamaica, where Gloria's ancestors also settled. I was very interested in her admixture results, curious to see how much Ashkenazi would show up? I replayed her segment and could see what I believe is 12% Ashkenazi. I suppose European Jews have substantial European admixture, and not as much Middle Eastern as I expected? Also I expected to see a higher percentage of Ashkenazi in her results? I was surprised that more Ashkenazi didn't show up in my own results?



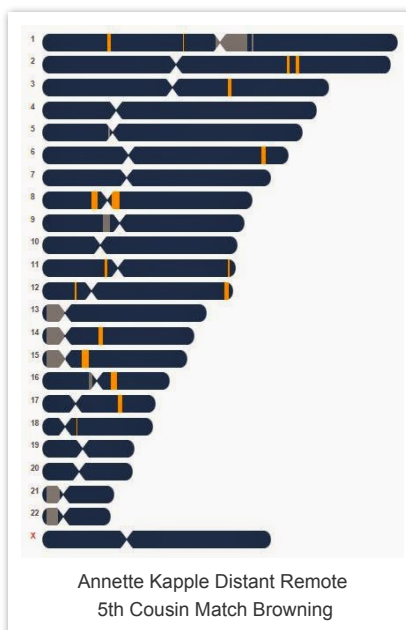
I was so surprised to find a new Browning match at Family Tree DNA. This match shared a large segment on the X chromosome with Mom, but zero on the X with me. My Mom shared an 18.9 cm segment with this Browning match, and a 5 cm segment. The 18.9 segment is the largest X chromosome share I've found in our matches. My Mom shared substantially more DNA with this match than I did. My relationship prediction, with this match, was 5th cousin remote. The prediction for my Mom was 2nd to 4th cousin. This match is a 3rd cousin 1x removed to me Mom. This same person also matches us at AncestryDNA, and is predicted to be a 4th cousin there. We also have another Browning match at Family Tree DNA. This person is a more distant cousin, and didn't match our closer cousin.



I noticed a glitch in the surname search at Family Tree DNA. Our new match has Browning in their tree, but this match doesn't show up when you search on that name?

My goal on our Browning line is to confirm a circumstantial lineage. It's believed that Roger Browning of Greene County, Tennessee is the same Roger Browning mentioned in Benjamin Browning's estate records. Benjamin died in Maryland. I haven't found any source material verifying the fact Roger of Tennessee migrated from Maryland? Unless a document surfaces we will need to support this inference with DNA testing.

My Mom and I have a remote cousin match with a descendant of Francis Browning and Rachel Marriott who were supposed to Grandparents of Benjamin Browning. My Mom shares a 16 cm segment with this match. This would be a 7th cousin to my Mom. At AncestryDNA we have a moderate match with a descendant of Benjamin's parents Edward Browning and Elizabeth.



#### List of Browning matches

1. Match through Roger Browning and his Daughter Malinda. AncestryDNA very low confidence for me and moderate for my Mom.
2. The match I talked about above is through Richard W. Browning and Obedience McPike, and son William Jennings Browning. AncestryDNA. Predicted 4th to 6th cousin to my Mom, and 5th cousin remote to me. Actually 3rd cousin 1x removed to my Mom. Family Tree DNA.
3. Match through Roger Browning and Mary, and their son Amzi. Down through Amzi's daughter Emma. At AncestryDNA.
4. We have a match through Richard Washington Browning, my great-great grandfather and his son William Jennings Browning at AncestryDNA. Predicted 4th cousin, but

actually 2nd cousin twice removed to my Mom.

5. A possible match down the Francis Browning and Rachel Marriott line through son John. This tree is quite mixed up. This is a predicted 4th- 6th cousin match to my Mom, which would actually be 7th at AncestryDNA.
6. We have another match through Richard Washington Browning, my great-great grandfather and his son William Jennings Browning at AncestryDNA. Predicted 4th- 6th cousin, but actually 3rd cousin twice removed to my Mom.
7. Match through Edward Browning and Elizabeth moderate match. AncestryDNA.
8. Match through Francis Browning and son John. Ancestry DNA. Low confidence to Mom.
9. Match through Francis Browning and daughter Catherine. Ancestry DNA. Low confidence to Mom.
10. Another match through Nathan Browning and Obedience McPike and son William. Ancestry DNA. Very low confidence to Mom. Actually 3rd cousin 2x removed.
11. Another match through Francis Browning and Rachel Marriott through Catherine. Ancestry match. Very low confidence to Mom.
12. Yet another match through Francis Browning and Rachel Marriott through Catherine. Ancestry match. Very low confidence to Mom.
13. A match through Francis and Rachel and son John. AncestryDNA. Very low confidence to Mom.
14. Another match Edward Browning and Elizabeth through son Nathan. AncestryDNA. Very low confidence to Mom.
15. Match through Nathan Browning and Obedience McPike and their daughter Mary (Polly). AncestryDNA match very low confidence. Actual relationship 3rd cousin 2x removed to Mom.
16. Another match through Nathan Browning and Obedience McPike through daughter Elizabeth. AncestryDNA very low confidence match. Actually relationship 3rd cousin 2x remove to Mom.
17. Another match through Roger Browning and his daughter Melinda's line. AncestryDNA. Very low confidence to Mom.
18. A match through Francis Browning and Rachel Marriott through their daughter Catherine. At Family Tree DNA 4th cousin remote to Mom. Would actually be 7th cousin.

If anyone reading this matches us on the Browning line at AncestryDNA please let me know if you'd like to compare at Gedmatch? If I could get our Browning matches to compare at Gedmatch, and we can compare notes, maybe we can confirm our circumstantial lineage. I'm finding that some of the Brownings, among my matches, settled in Culpepper County, Virginia. I'll have to see what I can find in their records.

Something else that struck me is how cousin removals affect the amount of shared DNA. My Mom has many cousins in the 3rd and 4th cousin range who are removed from her by 1 to 3 generations. Most of these cousins are very low confidence matches, although some are more confident. I'll have to examine a chart showing the amount of DNA generally shared by these cousins. I wish I could see how much DNA we share, and where it is on the chromosomes at AncestryDNA.

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Posted by [Annette](#) at [3:33 PM](#) [5 comments:](#) 

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

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Tuesday, February 17, 2015

## RootsTech 2015



RootsMapper uses your Family Search Tree to map Ancestral locations.

I enjoyed watching the live feed from [RootsTech 2015](#), as usual, this year. I appreciate [Family Search](#) making this available to us for free. The keynote speeches this year didn't appeal to me as much as in previous years. I would like to hear more about tech or genetic genealogy during the keynote presentations. I enjoyed Donny Osmond's presentation. I know he, and his family, have been actively involved in researching their family history. I'm sorry an episode of a Welsh show called "Coming Home" is no longer available at Youtube. Donny Osmond was featured in a show episode where his family history in Wales was presented to him. They unrolled a long family history pedigree chart for him at one point; he seemed genuinely moved. I enjoyed his upbeat, energetic presentation at RootsTech.

The "Innovator Summit Challenge Event" was interesting. The second place winner was my favorite. It allows searches on handwritten pages even in foreign languages. This would allow searching without indexing, it's called "[ArgusSearch](#)". I personally have zero interest in the event winner "[Story Worth](#)". I might use the 3rd place winner sometime? It's called "[GenMarketplace](#)". You post a problem and researchers bid to solve it.

Any technology that helps me **Systematize and Analyze** my research is what I want to know more about. The streamed sessions, at RootsTech, which appealed to me the most were:



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**Arlene Eakle's  
Tennessee Blog**  
Tennessee  
Ancestors—Mostly  
Military Evidence  
Found in Early  
Land Claims  
1 week ago



**Geneabloggers**  
Happy October  
2020  
Blogiversaries  
2 weeks ago

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- 1. **30 Pieces of Tech I Can't Live Without** Favorite website shared in this presentation **ArchiveGrid** which allows you to search archives for family information.
- 2. **Building a Genealogy Research Toolbox** The best link from this presentation was **Wolfram Alpha** helps calculate relationships and provides other kinds of data computation. Good for nicknames.
- 3. **Getting Started in Genetic Genealogy** Great for those starting out in Genetic Genealogy, I enjoyed it also.
- 4. **What's New at FamilySearch** I thought this was an interesting presentation. I will continue to attach information to their tree but I'm hoping it's not a complete waste of time? Their are so many duplicates that need fixing I'm hoping my attached info doesn't get thrown out when merging occurs. The ability to search all of the trees for photos and other special content is nice. The best links to come out of the presentation were: "**RootsMapper**" my favorite toy from this year's RootsTech. "**Find-A-Record**" is another partner of **Family Search** with an app. for finding possible documentation for your family tree. It also spots problems on your Family Search tree. The problems found are so massive it would be a full time job for months to fix them (it's about as massive as tearing my house down and rebuilding in my case).

You can watch some of the previously streamed sessions [here](#).

My dream app. would be a page like the old iGoogle which would display messages from all sites, with messaging, including Ancestry.com. It would also display all of my DNA matches as they come in, and allow me to click to view their surnames. I would also like to see blogs like **GeneaWebinars** display their content directly on the same page. A list of new record content from all of the research sites would be great to see on the same page too. Genetic Genealogy is the future and RootsTech needs to focus on this area even more. We need help understanding how to use our results and integrate them with our traditional research. We need more apps. for genetic genealogy and I hope future innovators address our needs.

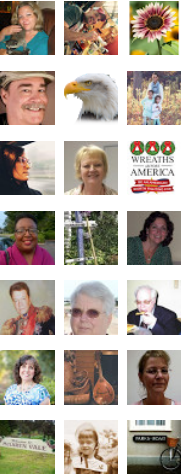
I personally need an app. that cuts my internet connection after a certain number of hours, or at a certain time in the evening. Time to cut myself off and do come grocery shopping. Bye for now.

Posted by **Annette** at **4:05 PM**    1 comment:    

Thursday, February 12, 2015

# The McDonald's Of DNA Does It Again!

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You can stop researching your family tree AncestryDNA has made it unnecessary. Just take their DNA test and they'll find your ancestors for you. They may not be the correct ancestors, but you can't have everything. Where did I learn of this latest innovation? You can read more about the announcement [here](#).

"Building on DNA Circles, in 2015 we will launch a new experience that will use the latest genetic technology to discover new ancestors without the customer having to search records or build a family tree. This new feature will transform how family history research is done by providing valuable hints to help experienced genealogist looking to break through brick walls, as well as open family history to a whole new segment of the population. Through this new experience, AncestryDNA customers will be able to discover new ancestors as far back as the 1700's by connecting into existing DNA Circles."

Sounds like a dream come true for those uninterested in doing research? It is just a dream. You can't avoid the research process. AncestryDNA cannot manufacture a tree for you using DNA alone. There are some wonderful trees attached to DNA results which can produce accurate Circles. In other cases, for instance, many people have the wrong ancestral information copied from old published genealogies. Those trees will contribute to inaccurate Circles. I'm not saying the Circles are a bad idea. I think they are a good idea if used properly; as hints only. Although they will never replace segment information for confirming matches.

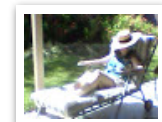
If you don't read the latest Ancestry press release carefully you may miss the fact that Ancestry is only providing hints. In their first sentence, describing the Circles, they state a customer can discover ancestors without doing research or building a tree. If you read further it says they are providing hints. This contradicts their first statement and suggests research is required. A few people were misled yesterday believing Ancestry could now correct all the bad trees on their site. That would be great, but is impossible at this point in time.

The DNA testing companies are going to accentuate the positive when trying to sell their product. That's understandable. They shouldn't be grossly misleading however. The founder of Family Tree DNA has been openly critical over claims about what some say autosomal DNA can do. He has integrity. I would like to see AncestryDNA continue to grow their database in a way demonstrating they have some integrity. Many people walk away, after spending \$110, dissatisfied with the results they receive. This happens when people don't understand what they are buying. This happens most often at AncestryDNA because they over state the accuracy of their product.

I have to say I get a kick out of the ridiculous statements that seem to pour out of

- [2016](#) (24)
- [2015](#) (30)
- [2014](#) (53)
- [2013](#) (59)
- [2012](#) (76)
- [2011](#) (94)

## About Me



**Annette**

[View my complete profile](#)

## Feedjit

Ancestry.com. If they made reasonable statements about their product I would miss the comic relief. I wouldn't fall off my chair laughing anymore. On the other hand, I hate to see people spend money expecting to get one thing; but, instead walk away with something they aren't happy with.

Posted by [Annette](#) at [11:19 AM](#) 1 comment: 

Sunday, February 8, 2015

## AncestryDNA Sells 100,000 Kits In December 2014 And Comparing Cousins Results

Ancestry.com reported their 4th quarter earnings, and year end earning results, on February 3rd ( you can listen to the full report [here](#)). I guess the AncestryDNA boycott hasn't caught on yet because they sold 100,000 kits in December of 2014 alone; that's double what they sold in the same month last year which was around 50,000 kits. Most of these kits, I suspect, were purchased by the Millennial generation who are interested in the Ethnicity results. This seems to be reflected in the Ancestry subscription numbers which are declining instead of growing. Ancestry lost 25,000 subscribers in 2014. I'm not sure whether adding a subscription requirement to see your matches' surnames will increase subscriptions? The young people testing for ethnicity don't seem interested in looking at match information. I had planned on subscribing to the trees using the "Ancestral Insights" subscription. That was before they instituted the new subscription requirement for new accounts. I don't like to be coerced into buying a subscription so I'm thinking that purchase over now.

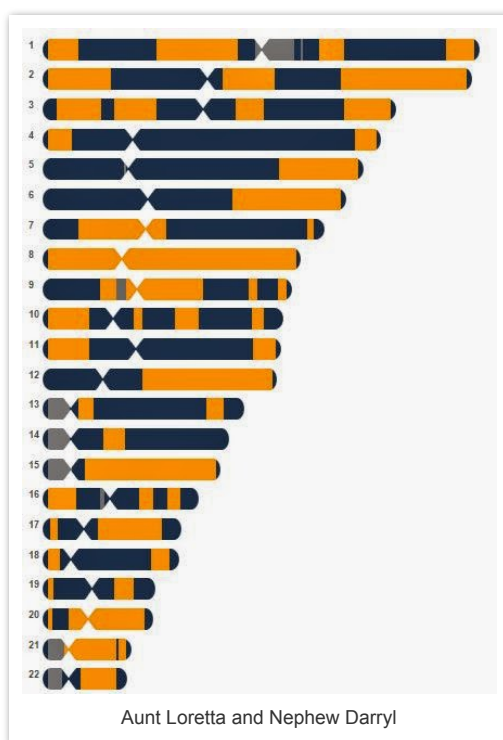
Revenues are up for Ancestry.com in the 4th quarter. Losses are down compared to a year ago. There were some great sales last year apparently due to slowing sales. With such incredibly high kit sales recently I don't expect to see another sale, at least until they process all the kits purchased in late 2014. AncestryDNA is driving revenue growth at Ancestry. AncestryDNA will be expanding into Germany and Mexico this year.

Sounds like more novelty features will be added to the AncestryDNA product. Maybe a Neanderthal prediction? As I understand it these new features will not include the sharing of segment information. An interesting blog post was published this week about the DNA Circles and their weakness as a tool for determining how you are related to matches. The post [Anatomy of a DNA Circle](#) explains the problems faced when drawing conclusions based on Circles. When I contact matches at AncestryDNA, sadly, most don't understand the benefits of triangulation with DNA matches. AncestryDNA misleads their testers into believing they don't need to do anything except attach a tree.

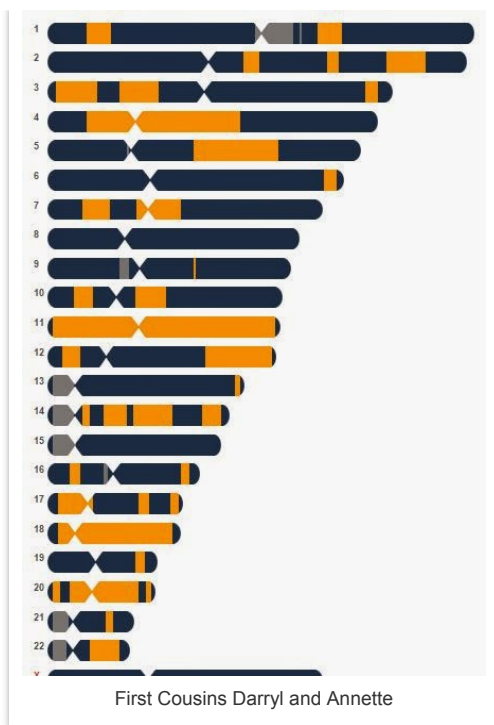
Like so many genetic genealogists I've been trying to figure out possible cousin relationships based on the amount of shared DNA. My Mom was born in Granada, Nicaragua to Charles Lynn Forgey, a US Marine based in Nicaragua, and his Nicaraguan wife Graciela Del Castillo. My mother was 4 years old when she came to the US. I have very little information about my Nicaraguan family. Luckily the civil registration records for Managua, Nicaragua are online. Unfortunately the records for Granada, Nicaragua aren't, and that's where most of my ancestors lived. I've been examining my Mom's Nicaraguan matches at AncestryDNA and Family Tree DNA. I had been contacted, a couple weeks ago, by a distant cousin whose Aunt matched my Mom at AncestryDNA. She is a "Very High" confidence match for my Mom, and my family was acquainted with her great-grandfather Francisco who lived not far away from my family here in Southern California. AncestryDNA predicts they are 3rd to 6th cousins. Her

2nd cousin, on her only Nicaraguan line, also matches my Mom at FTDNA. Her 2nd cousin doesn't match my Mom as closely however. He is a 5th cousin remote sharing an 11 cM segment. Looking at both of these predictions, plus the fact our families were acquainted with each other, I'm guessing 4th cousin? Don't know if I will ever be able to confirm that? If the Granada records still exist, and go back far enough, I may be able to discover our exact relationship..

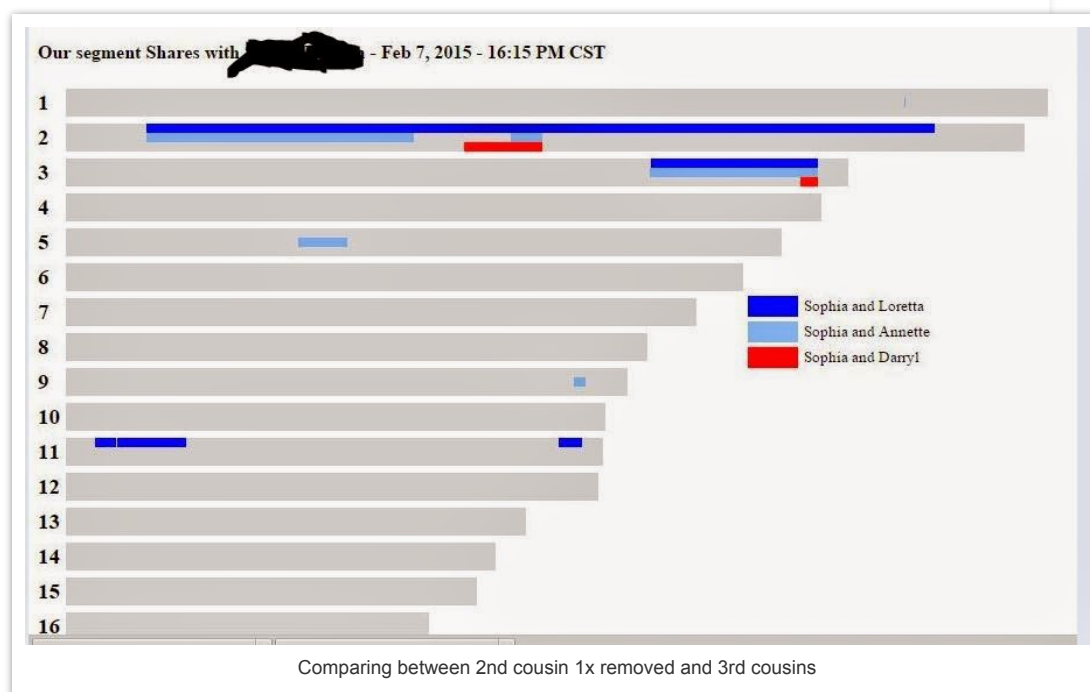
I've been analyzing my cousin Darryl's results. These comparisons, again, highlight the fact it's nearly impossible to predict relationships past the 2nd cousin degree of relationship. The first chromosome chart compares him with his Aunt Loretta. He shares 1704 cM's total with her. The longest segment is 162 cMs. My mother and her niece share 1769 cMs. Longest segment is 156 cMs. Generally those who share this degree of relationship share between 1500-2000 cMs. (got most of the cM averages from this ISOGG page [here](#))



A comparison of Darryl and I. We are first cousins. We share 1074 cMs. Our longest segment is 156 cMs. I share 1041.81, total cMs, with another first cousin. And the longest segment is 75 cMs. First cousins generally share 548-1139 cMs.

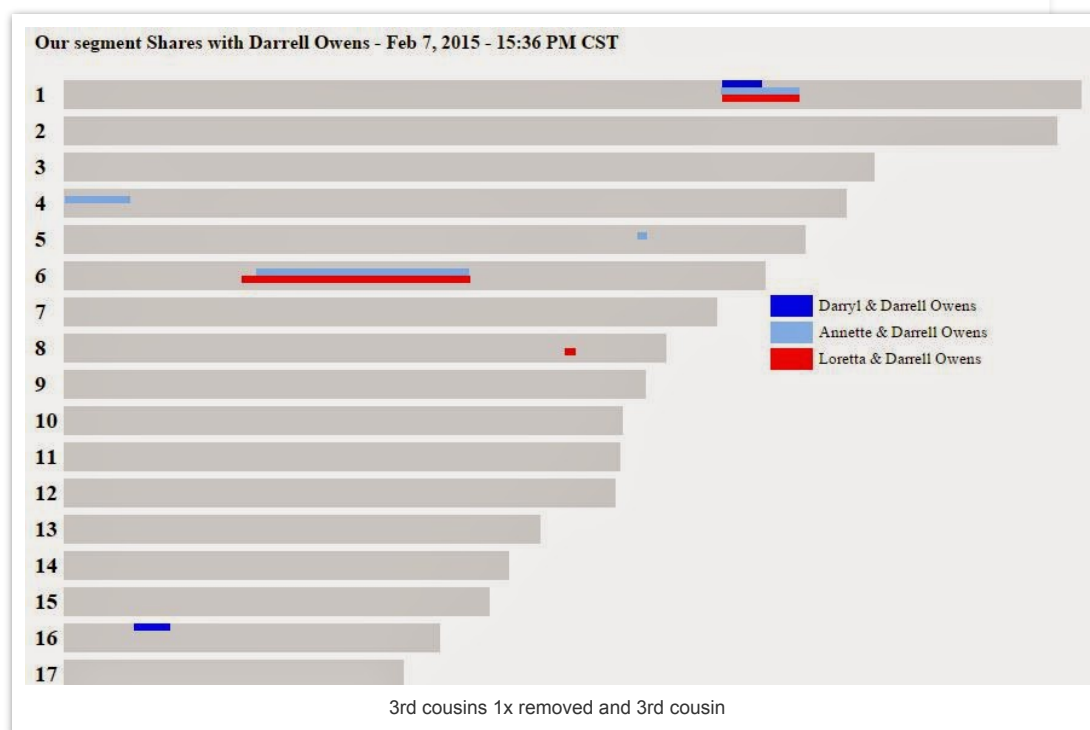


Moving on to a third Cousin to Darryl. He shares only 27 cM's with our third cousin; the longest is 16 cMs. Vastly smaller share than his Aunt Loretta and I. I share a total of 149 cMs with our third cousin. The largest segment is 69 cMs. Aunt Loretta share 182 cMs with the largest segment being 88 cMs. Third cousins generally share 16-111 cMs, I believe my Aunt would be a 2nd cousin 1x removed from this cousin. Second cousins once removed generally share 19-197 cMs.

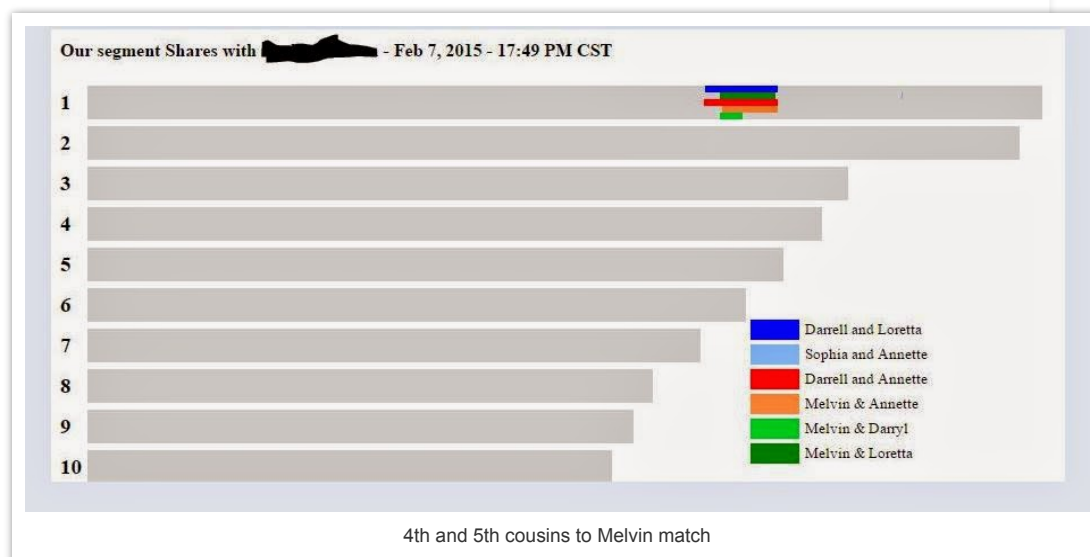


Darryl's 3rd cousin 1x removed shares 35 cMs and the largest segment is 14.9. I share 91.5 cMs and the longest segment is 32 cMs. Our Aunt Loretta shares 65 cMs the largest segment being 37.9. I share more DNA than my Aunt and cousin with this match. The average 3rd cousin 1x removed shares 0-99 cMs.





Darryl shares DNA in the same place on chromosome 1 as a 5th cousin on our Melvin line. We have great triangulation with this Melvin match. Again Darryl's segment is smaller at 7 cMs but is in the same location. The rest of us share about 15 cM segments in the same place.



Apparently Darryl's father, Thomas Kapple, inherited some segments from his father that my father, Robert Kapple, did not get. We don't know which line or lines of our Burgenland family this DNA was inherited from? This match shares the surnames Jost, Kurta, and Koppel. Since my Aunt inherited half of her DNA from her father I would have thought she would have inherited the longer segment. Instead her nephew Darryl shares the large 32.5 cM segment, and Aunt Loretta shares an 11.8 cM segment in the same place.

Overlapping Segment Map from loretta darryl and burgenland.csv - Feb 8, 2015 - 16:17 PM CST



Unknown relationship with several possibilities

Posted by [Annette](#) at [4:18 PM](#)    4 comments:   

Sunday, February 1, 2015

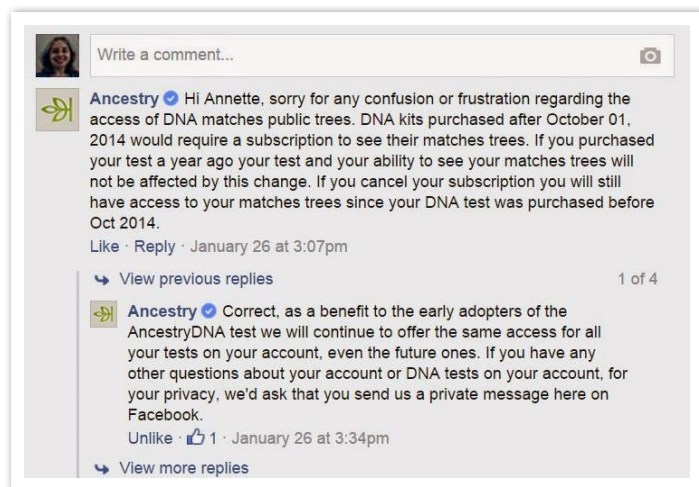
## AncestryDNA Non Subscription Accounts Downgraded Plus People Behind The Segments

AncestryDNA Requires Subscription



I wrote last week that AncestryDNA now requires a \$49 annual subscription to review matches for non subscribers. It's been very difficult to get specific details about this new requirement. After basically insisting on getting answers, I with the help of others, was finally able to get more details. October 1, 2014 is when this change took affect. If you purchased a kit before this date your account is considered an "old account", and you can

still see partial trees, surnames and maps. Future kits activated in old accounts also have access to the old features. The "new accounts" (those who purchased kits after October 1, 2014) now require a subscription to view any part of a match's trees, or surnames. In the past AncestryDNA representatives said the DNA portion of the Ancestry site would be maintained as a **standalone product** which would not require a subscription? (See an explanation of the changes below, and a video about what was available to non subscribers before and what non subscribers see now when they click on matches, see above.)



Another problem I have with AncestryDNA's decision, to require a subscription, is that you can build and access your own tree at Ancestry without maintaining a subscription. They allow you to add value to Ancestry's site with your research, pictures and documents but won't allow you to use your tree to make connections if you are a non subscriber. The DNA tests aren't free and generally cost \$110. I don't see why new non subscribers can't see what the old non subscribers can see? If a non subscriber attaches a tree to their results their matches can use it if they are subscribers, but the non subscriber can't. Unfair. I've removed my trees from my own results.

Ancestry has had a rough start in this first month of the New Year. Their Chief Product Officer is leaving at the end of this month. They are now offering their DNA product for sale in the UK. Apparently the price is higher there than in the US, which isn't going down well with some people. Some records recently added to the Ancestry.com site didn't have any source information. When someone asked for a source citation they were told they couldn't provide one for contractual reasons. They did later offer a partial citation. I've been doing more research at the Ancestry site than usual the last few days. I've noticed the same problems others have reported; the search at Ancestry doesn't always find everything searched for. I've gotten some results that took me to the wrong page. I don't always get the same results with the same search? When the settings are set to show like matches this feature also fails to find some like matches that should be included. I've been using MyHeritage this week and find their search is the best available. I'm finding things using their search that are not coming up with any other search. The problem with MyHeritage is that you have to pay to see the results of your search and the results are generally located on free sites.

On the positive side Ancestry's President and Chief Executive Officer, Tim Sullivan stated, at the "Personalized Medicine World Conference 2015", they now have 700,000 people in their database. They are now beginning to move in a direction which may eventually lead them to provide health results to testers in the future. A new app was talked about at the conference which allows users keep a record of their health history. He stated that DNA was the "core to company mission." The importance of the DNA product at Ancestry, I believe, will lead them to release segment information at some point. I think once new testers become

more familiar with what the segment information can do for them they'll start demanding this information.

There are many interesting stories behind our DNA matches. Many DNA testers test to solve a family mystery. Their stories are often fascinating. I love mystery novels, so I love hearing about how people use DNA and genealogy to solve long standing family mysteries. The [Genealogy Roadshow](#) highlights and helps solve family mysteries which makes this show so fascinating. A distant cousin contacted me this week and his story reminded of some of the stories featured on the Roadshow. A relative of his matched my Mom at a "Very High" match confidence level at AncestryDNA. This cousin's Great-grandmother met a Nicaraguan cousin of mine in the 1920's. He owned and operated a dance studio in Nevada. She had a whirlwind romance with him and they eloped. This was a short lived marriage probably owing to huge cultural differences. One party being Latin and the other Anglo, one Mormon and the other Catholic, which would have been huge differences in the 1920's. This distant cousin seems to have been a ladies man having affairs with women in many states. He didn't provide his true identity to his Reno wife. This family has had to do some research to find out his true name and learn more about their family. More research is needed to find out exactly what happened to him, and his true family's identity. This would make a great story for [The Genealogy Roadshow](#).

I have spent a lot of time writing about AncestryDNA, mainly because of all of the changes they've made. Some people think DNA testing is a team support. As Leo Leporte often says people who own smart phones think they belong to a team. "I'm team Android, I'm team iPhone." DNA testing isn't a team support either. All of the companies provide nearly the same quality results with a few exceptions (some provide better tools for reviewing matches). I would recommend testing with all the companies if you can afford it. I might have a fit of pique with these companies from time to time, but they all provide matches that help with my genealogy. I don't think there will be much more to say about AncestryDNA for a while at least. I'm curious about their performance in the 4th quarter. We'll find out on the 3rd when they release the 4th quarter financial report. Otherwise it's time to move on and evaluate some new matches.

Activate AncestryDNA kits  
from old accounts. They are  
grandfathered in so you don't  
have to pay the \$49 fee  
annually to see Trees  
for your matches if you don't  
subscribe.  
(old meaning before Oct?)

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Posted by [Annette](#) at [12:14 AM](#)

1 comment:

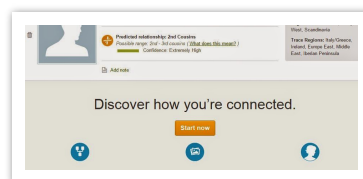


Friday, January 23, 2015

## Bait-And-Switch At AncestryDNA



**Correction:** the requirement for a subscription only applies to new tests after last fall's changes. You will get the screen shown on the right if you recently tested and try to access trees. You will be required to pay at least \$49 a year to see any portion of a tree.



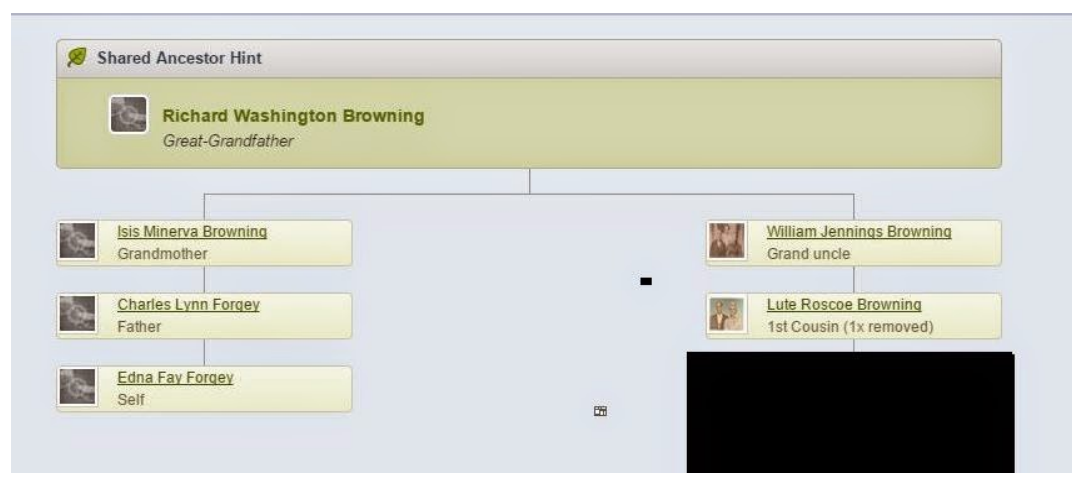
I was absolutely blown away yesterday when my cousin's DNA results came back and we couldn't even view partial trees for his matches. I set up a free account for him. In the past you could view the first 7 generations of a match's pedigree without subscribing. You could even see more if you clicked on the names. Now you can't see anything without subscribing. I think this is highly unethical. When I bought my kit I understood that I would be able to see at least a partial tree without paying a dollar more. This test has suddenly become the most expensive test offered by any company. Without the trees the test is useless, other than getting the highly controversial ethnic results, there would be no reason to use their test. If you maintain the minimum subscription of \$49 to see the trees the test would end up costing you more than \$500 over 10 years. I would rather use that money traveling to ancestral locations. The test results, which are often changed for the worse, the glitches, and no segment information in the AncestryDNA database mean this test is absolutely not worth that amount of money.

After learning about this bait-and-switch move by AncestryDNA I've decided I will eventually make my tree private. If Ancestry decides to make viewing partial trees free again I will unlock my tree. A number of people have linked to my tree so I will have to invite them to my private tree.

So now when you buy an AncestryDNA kit for someone as a gift they will be required to maintain some kind of subscription to continue to see the trees. A gift that keeps on taking?

In my last blog I shared the fact that a 3rd cousin 1x removed disappeared from my Mom's match list. It seems she purchased a test for another relative, and that relative now matches my Mom at the Extremely High Confidence level. Their result came in yesterday. This person appears to be a 2nd cousin 1x removed to my Mom. I will contact this match and see if she would be willing to compare at GEDmatch. I have a feeling they both share large segments.





Posted by **Annette** at **12:09 PM** 9 comments:

Saturday, January 17, 2015

## Which DNA Company Has The Best Matching System?

people	range	confidence
24 people	4th - 6th cousins	95% No longer matches
83 people	4th - 6th cousins	95% No longer matches
No family tree	4th - 6th cousins	95% No longer matches
798 people	4th - 6th cousins	95% No longer matches
23847 people	4th - 6th cousins	95% No longer matches
No family tree	4th - 6th cousins	95% No longer matches
2433 people	4th - 6th cousins	95% No longer matches
3625 people	4th - 6th cousins	95% No longer matches

I am now finally able to evaluate the new matching system, at AncestryDNA, which uses the Timber filter to eliminate supposedly IBS segments. I was quite shocked to find a 3rd cousin 1x removed, who was a 95% confidence level match, now missing from my Mom's match list. This match is in a Circle with us and definitely isn't considered a match anymore. A cousin lost a total of 8 matches who were previously 95% confidence level matches, which no longer match at all.

Now that I have this comparison information I can evaluate the 3 companies I have experience with i.e: Family Tree DNA, AncestryDNA, and 23andMe.

1. 23andMe's system appears to be the best. Their matching procedure isn't as rigid as the others, which may result in false matches, but I believe they have a good confidence rating system which should provide enough guidance when it comes to establishing the likelihood that you are actually related.
2. Family Tree DNA uses IBS small segments to determine matches. This sort of rating system can cause good matches to be lost.
3. I rate AncestryDNA well below the others when it comes to matching. They phase results and now use a Timber filter to determine IBS segments. AncestryDNA processes as many as 30,000 kits a month. I believe the extra processing they do with

the kits affects the accuracy of their match results. They claim their processes have a low error rate. I personally think the error rate is higher than they claim. Their computer system is full of glitches which may also affect the match results? Both my Mom and I lost 3 previously 95% confidence matches ( one was a 3rd cousin 1x removed). A third cousin of mine lost 8 matches in the previously 95% confidence level. After phasing these matches looked strong, the Timber filter eliminated them completely. Timber also pushed a few 95% confidence matches into the Extremely High confidence level. A couple of these matches have extensive trees going back 8 generations. I can't find a common ancestor or even common places with them?

I have to say I was sold on phasing after listening to AncestryDNA representatives talk about it. I believe it works well on a small scale, with more quality control than is possible when working with a high volume of kits.

I think it would be best if all of the companies would use the same match criteria as 23andMe, which is at least one segment which is 7 cMs and 700 SNPs. 23andMe sets a cap on the number of matches to avoid the problem AncestryDNA had with massive numbers of matches. I think the cap is a better idea than trying to filter out IBS segments and in the process losing good matches.


Ancestry.com is more of an entertainment site rather than a serious genealogy site. A great blog post explaining the pitfalls of this approach was published this week "[Ignorance is Bliss at AncestryDNA](#)". I would still test with them; it's just important to realize their match procedure and confidence levels are flawed. I probably lost half a dozen matches I felt were likely true matches at AncestryDNA when the Timber filter was used. That's not a good thing, but I can live with that because the trees are so helpful.

Posted by [Annette](#) at [2:43 PM](#) No comments: 

Sunday, January 11, 2015

## DNA News of the Week: 23andMe Digs Out Of Hole & No Chromosome Browser at AncestryDNA

Your Score



Correct: 5  
Incorrect: 0  
Skipped: 0

Course Average: 69

Review Your Answers

	YOU	YOUR CLASS (29)
Question 1	✓ CORRECT	✓ 26 ✗ 3
Question 2	✓ CORRECT	✓ 22 ✗ 7
Question 3	✓ CORRECT	✓ 15 ✗ 14
Question 4	✓ CORRECT	✓ 13 ✗ 16
Question 5	✓ CORRECT	✓ 24 ✗ 5

My first Exam for a Udemy Genetics course

News out of the "Association of Professional Genealogists' Professional Management " conference in Salt Lake City, from a blog post by the "[The Legal Genealogist](#)", AncestryDNA will not have a chromosome browser and that's final ( unless there is a management change

at some point). I would never pay \$99 for the test without the chromosome browser. I believe it's worth \$49. Ancestry's DNA business is the only thing driving new subscriptions at this point. I feel like this will help to keep Ancestry afloat for a while. Long term I think sales will slow down. Ancestry's database subscriptions are too expensive to maintain for years on end. You only save money if you subscribe to them for a limited time. If Ancestry had images of Deeds I would definitely maintain a subscription longer. I will have to cancel my monthly subscription soon. I just have too many other financial obligations to continue. I'm going a spending diet for a while.

23andMe announced a deal with big pharma to examine the role of genetics in the Parkinson's disease process. It's a **\$10 million deal**. I have no problem with 23andMe's use of customer information for research purposes. I believe everyone testing with them is aware that their primary goal is to collect DNA and use it to help customers understand health risk factors they may have, and compile customers' health survey information to find common genetic characteristics of people with certain diseases.

Listening to a **Youtube video presentation** by 23andMe founder Anne Wojcicki did bring up some good points. She was asked shouldn't the testers be paid for their contribution instead of the other way around? I don't know about offering free tests. I think that would be highly unlikely. I think \$30 would be a fair price for the kind of information 23andMe offers, plus the fact they are profiting from the results. I'm considering testing with them but feel \$99 is too much considering the results are still subject to debate. I was shocked when I read, in the **"Time" article**, that the number of testers dropped by half after the FDA suspended the health portion of the test. I think a drop in price would help to rebuild their database. Testing with 23andMe for genealogy purposes has been helpful for some people. My particular family doesn't seem to be well represented in their database judging by my cousin's results.

ISOGG updated their **identical by descent information**. I think the phasing that AncestryDNA does is helpful in weeding out IBS segments, as stated by ISOGG, even though it's not perfect. However I'm skeptical of their approach when it comes to filtering pile up matches. Reading **"How Phasing Works and Determining IBD Versus IBS Matches"** blog post at the **"DNAeXplained – Genetic Genealogy"** blog it sounds like what defines a "pile up" is variable. As few as 25 people sharing DNA in the same place may be considered a "pile up". So someone sharing 24 matches in the same place on a segment wouldn't be a "pile up"? I'm wondering exactly what the arbitrary cut offs really are? It seems ridiculous.

I'm taking a Udemy **Intro to Genetic Genealogy** course. It's very interesting so far. Got 100% on my first examine. I love the ancient theory of preformationism. The idea that there are little preformed bodies in sperm is so funny.

We got a new match at Family Tree DNA this week. This is a predicted 2nd to 4th cousin for my Mom. I found a dozen people triangulating on segments shared with this match, which I believe may be related to our Browning line. If I verify this it would cut my list of unidentified matches at Family Tree DNA by around 12. I know that at least one match shares the same Browning line with my Mom and I. Several members of the same family tested with Family Tree DNA, and they share the same Browning match with us. I was thinking they shared this same family line hundreds of years ago. Now I'm thinking it may have been more recently as the 2nd to 4th cousin prediction would suggest. I noticed their Combs line lived in Lawrence County, IN and Monroe County, IN where some of our Browning relatives settled.



My cousin's AncestryDNA kit is being processed now. Hopefully we'll see results in a couple

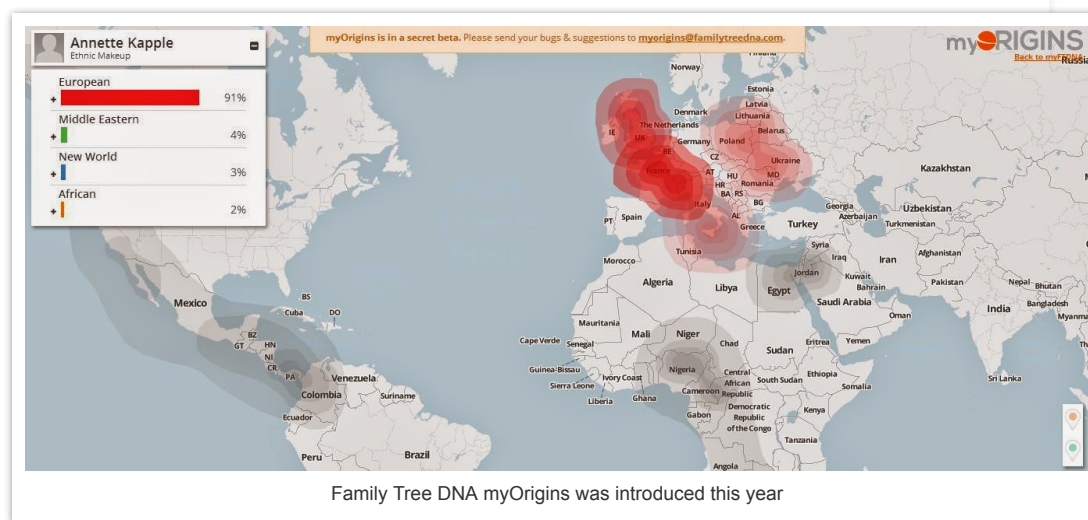
weeks?



Posted by [Annette](#) at [10:50 PM](#) No comments:

Saturday, January 3, 2015

## 2014 Year in Genetic Genealogy: Looking Backward And Looking Forward



### Happy New Year 2015!

We began the year 2014 with a push to grow our Forgey/Forgey & Forgie Y DNA project. We did grow it by several additional members. We added two additional men to the main grouping, and three are now outside the most common Y haplo group. We need to solve two of these NPE's. Hoping an autosomal test will show a female line of descent for one of these lines?

My Mom and I tested with AncestryDNA this year. I tested in March and my Mom in July. I've found a couple dozen matches through Ancestry. I had a few taken away recently with their new pile up elimination filter. It's going to take a few years before we know how accurate Ancestry's methods really are.

My Aunt Loretta tested with Family Tree DNA. Their new myOrigins ethnicity estimate was

very far off for her. The estimates for my Mom and I are closer to correct.

### My DNA Personal Highlights 2014:

1. My Aunt matched an Owens descendant through the George Owens line.
2. Confirmed a 3rd cousin once removed in my Owens' line. No breaks in our Owens line to William F. Owens b. abt. 1820 & Nancy Hicks.
3. We triangulated with a Melvin match. Feel confident about our blood relationship to that line now. That takes the confirmed Hicks/Melvin line back to John Melvin b. abt. 1776.
4. I match a couple of Scrouf descendants and Darrell matches one. If this is a true DNA match it would take us back to John Owens b. abt. 1730.
5. We confirmed Archibald Forgey is related to everyone else in the common Haplo Forgey/Forgey & Forgie grouping at Family Tree DNA. I also confirmed that my own family had a rare mutation on a slow moving marker that the Archibald line doesn't share.
6. I found out our Thurman line is descended through a Richard Thurman and Sarah. The Y haplo for this line is the Viking Haplo I-M253.
7. We still have a Forgey/Roller AncestryDNA match who is a 1st cousin once removed to Archibald Forgey's descendant Christy. Nan, her brother, and Aunt are also matches on the same line.
8. Another important remaining match at AncestryDNA is with a Descendant of John Forgey son of Andrew Forgey and Margaret Reynolds. This is a very strong match for my Mom. This would confirm the Forgey line back to Andrew Forgey b. 1732 and Margaret Reynolds b. 1741. It's difficult to evaluate the validity to this match at AncestryDNA without seeing the shared segment.
9. We have a different Samuel Forgy b. 1726 match now (lost a previous one). This seems to point to a relationship at around 7 or 8 generations.
10. We've had several Moses Wray descendants match at both AncestryDNA and Family Tree DNA. I feel this line is confirmed back to Moses Wray b. abt. 1725 and Elizabeth Morris. We've had some Morris matches also, one additional generation back.
11. I was able to identify a close match that was a mystery for a couple of years. She descends from Mary Magdalene Roller.
12. We may have matches with a couple of Francis Browning b. 1672 descendants? I believe only my Mom matches these descendants? Her reach is much farther back than mine.

Looking forward to some new AncestryDNA results in the New Year. My 1st cousin on my father's side, Darryl, is testing and a 6th cousin, Forgey line, is testing right now. My cousin Judy is also considering testing and would be able to compare with our Aunt, Darryl and I. I would like to see a Huvane line cousin test. So far that line is not represented at Family Tree DNA or Ancestry. I would also like to see an Owens male in my line test to at least 37 markers on the Y test. Right now we only have one in my line testing at 25 markers. I will also look into having another Forgey male tested. I'm hoping someone who stated he was previously interested, is still interested?

What I will be keeping my eye on, from this point, is ethnicity estimates and brickwall related matches. Campbell, Owens, Forgey, Browning and Urmey are the names I'm focusing my DNA research on. I'm hoping the AncestryDNA Circles are fixed and expanded to make them more useful.

On a non genetic genealogy note, it was nice to find the marriage date and place for my Kapple grandparents. They had divorced and the date, and place, of their marriage had been forgotten. Found some new family picture posted to trees at Ancestry.com. Hope to find more



pics posted this year.

## Our collective Year In Genetic Genealogy and the Year to Come:

New episodes of "[Who Do You Think You Are?](#)" are due out early this year (beginning February 24). According to Ancestry.com the ratings for the last season of this show were down from the previous season. Ancestry also said the CNN special about their anchors' family history stories was very successful. Ancestry also felt the last season of PBS's "Finding Your Roots" was a good investment for them. Expect to see more Ancestry commercials on FOX in the New Year. The FOX audience is a key demographic for them. I'm wondering if the DNA test sales will slow at some point? If they lower the price I believe their sales will continue growing. At the current \$100 price I've found most average people aren't interested in testing. When they've had their \$49 sales they've had blowout months. AncestryDNA is expanding their testing service outside the US this year, which will bolster sales this year.

Name:	Rudolph J Kapple
Event Type:	Marriage Registration
Event Date:	18 Aug 1928
Event Place:	Lake, Indiana, United States
Gender:	Male
Marriage License Date:	18 Aug 1928
Marriage Place:	, Lake, Indiana
Spouse's Name:	Dorothy Mason
Spouse's Gender:	Female
Officiator's Name:	Arthur G Taylor
Page:	11
Number of Images:	1
GS Film Number:	002416125
Digital Folder Number:	007578273

We had some wonderful learning opportunities online this year. Spencer Wells gave a fascinating keynote speech early last year at "Roots Tech". Jamboree featured some great DNA presentations. One of the best was "The Future of Genetic Genealogy" presented by the founder of Family Tree DNA Bennett Greenspan (full sequencing and IDing rare SNPs is the future). The International Genetic Genealogy conference (I4GG) also offered presentations online and was, and is, another great opportunity learning. These presentations are still [available for purchase](#). Family Tree DNA and Ancestry also offered several webinars, and livestreams, regarding DNA and interpreting their products. 23andme offered a couple of live [hangouts](#) which were also very interesting. Several conferences in the British Isles also featured [DNA presentations](#) which are still available for viewing at [Youtube](#). I found these presentations excellent.

I've learned so much from the Facebook group [International Society of Genetic Genealogy \(ISOGG\)](#) this year. This group is such a good place to keep up with current news about genetic genealogy. You can also ask questions. Sometimes flash DNA sales are announced here. You have to be quick to cash in on some of these sales, as we found out, because they can end as quickly as they are announced.


I'll be listening to "[Roots Tech](#)" presentations available online in February. I think it's a mistake to have former First Lady Laura Bush and her daughter, Jenna, speak. This should be a non political event. Introducing politics will just cause hostility. What happened to the tech part of "Roots Tech" anyway? The speakers should have some involvement with the Tech community, or at least genealogy.

[23andMe](#) and [MyHeritage](#) will be collaborating in the new year. If 23andMe gets the green light to resume presenting medical results their database will grow faster again.


AncestryDNA seems to be moving in the direction of reconstructing ancestral genomes, hence the new Circles centered around specific ancestors. This could be a difficult undertaking because of serious errors in some of the Ancestry trees. Many people just copy information from other trees. Everyone in a circle may have information from the same wrong tree. Everyone in a Circle may be related, but not in the way they expected? They may have misidentified their common ancestor. The results of Ancestry's first attempt at this kind of ancestral genome reconstruction were [released late this year](#).

2014 has been an incredible watershed year in genetic genealogy. We'll see if it can be


topped in future years?




Obedience MC PIKE  
2nd Great-Grandmother  
(1788-1852)  
Circle members:16




Jacob ROLLER  
3rd Great-Grandfather  
(1762-1881)  
Circle members:34




Eve Zirkle  
3rd Great-Grandmother  
(1762-1858)  
Circle members:34




Nathan BROWNING  
2nd Great-Grandfather  
(1785-1837)  
Circle members:16




Anna ROLLER  
2nd Great-Grandmother  
(1797-1841)  
Circle members:7




Mary Magdalene ROUSH  
4th Great-Grandmother  
(1742-1815)  
Circle members:17



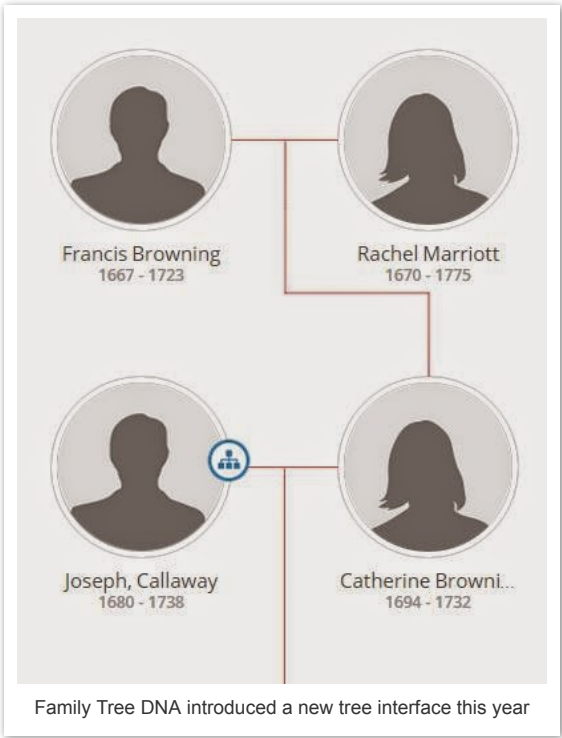
Andrew FORGEY  
2nd Great-Grandfather  
(1794-1879)  
Circle members:7



Jesse CALLAHAN  
2nd Great-Grandfather  
(1795-1898)  
Circle members:7



Obedience HOLLOWAY  
3rd Great-Grandmother  
(1747-1808)

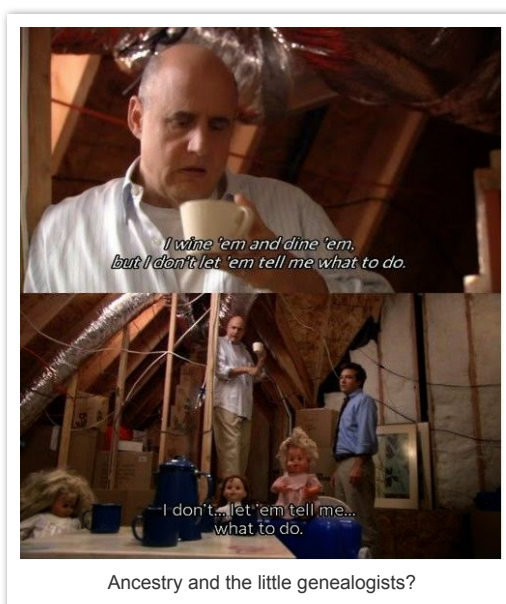


Posted by Annette at 2:15 PM

No comments: 

Sunday, December 14, 2014

# AncestryDNA Circles Rolling Right Off The Page & Other Oddities



I've been working on those novel AncestryDNA Circles, which are currently deep in beta. Why am I doing this when they aren't currently very interesting? Probably because I'm avoiding doing hated Christmas chores?? Ha, Ha, Ho! Ho!

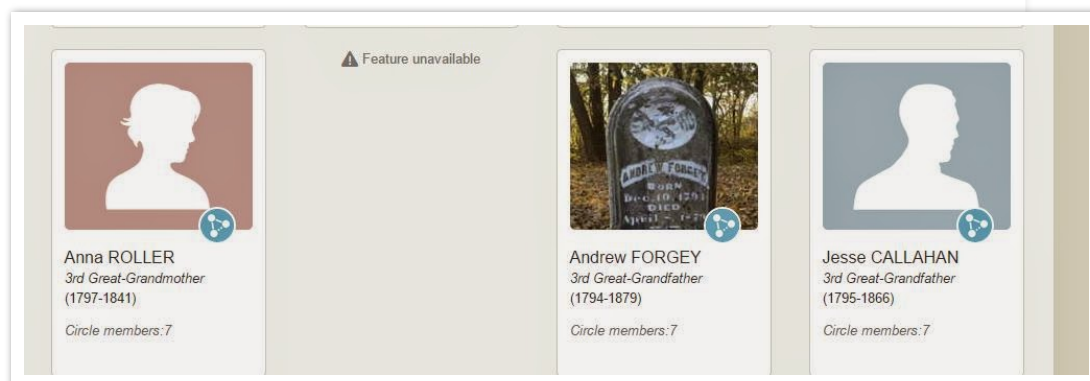
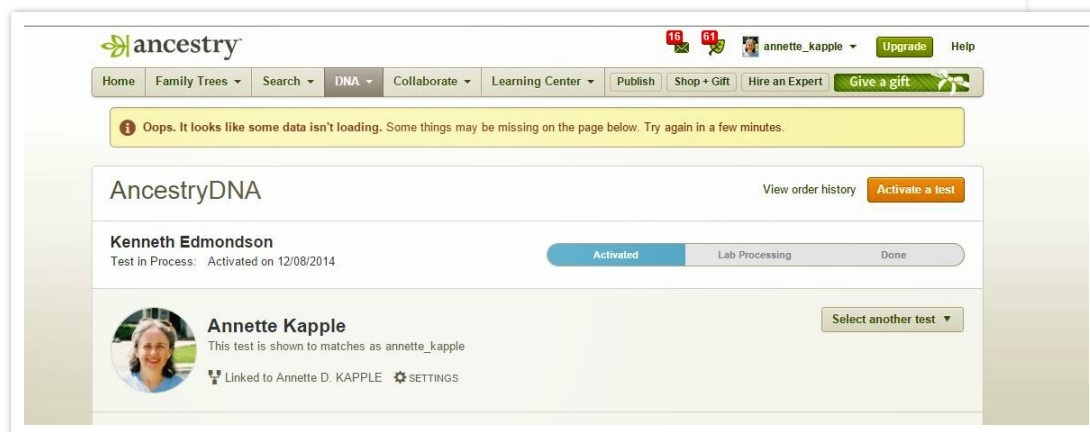
When I examined my Cousin Nan's Circles I noticed she had at least one that my Mom should be in. Upon further examination we should have 3 more than we have (that we even know about?). We've each had 9 Circles since the Circles started. In an effort to forget Christmas chores I plunged into the Circles. I tried changing the information to match the Circles we should be in. This hasn't resulted in creating any new circles yet? I heard that the Circles cycle every few hours. So I would think I should see any new Circles showing up within a day or so?

I contacted Ancestry via Facebook messaging yesterday. They attempted to fix my Circles problem. Apparently they were not able to add any Circles. What they managed to do is replace one Circle ancestor with another. It appears our Circles are stuck on 9 (I thought we had 7 but it's 9). Something is wrong which isn't allowing us to gain anymore Circles? This is what I saw last night when they tried to remedy the problem. You can see (below) one ancestor is replaced with "feature not available". This ancestor was later replaced by another ancestor.

Looking at the member trees for one Circle we're looking to join I noticed that one person doesn't even have the ancestor the Circle is based on in their tree. This person hasn't logged in since June? I take it he couldn't have changed the tree since the Circles were created?

After even brief examination it's clear the Circles are deeply mired in Beta. We hope they can fix these problems because previous search function problems remain. I got another message from Ancestry recommending I call them about the problems with our Circles. I learned to call them well before or after lunch. Backup phone Reps. apparently answer around lunch? I believe so because I called about a DNA test kit one time and the person seemed confused. They were like DNA test? Then they remembered, "Oh yay".

So now I have a new Circle but I'm still missing 3 Circles we should be in? If we can get them all at once I would be satisfied. The Christmas chores are looking better now.



Posted by **Annette** at 1:34 PM No comments:

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

## DNA: Grading Autosomal Testing Companies

What I've been doing so far with my test results is supporting my paper trail trees with DNA evidence. I haven't broken down any brickwalls yet, but I'm finding some evidence which may do that in the future.

Having worked with the Autosomal DNA tests since 2012 I've formed some opinions about the different companies I've had experience using.

Here are my grades based on my experience:

Companies	Ethnicity predictions	Cousin relationship predictions	Tools for confirming a Relationship:	Family Tree interface	Customer Service ability to answer questions	Satisfaction Overall
Family Tree DNA	D	D	A+	D+	B	B
AncestryDNA	B+	B+	F	A+	F	C
23andMe	B+	Not enough data	A	C+	Not enough Data	C

[Click to enlarge](#)

Since the point of testing for me is to confirm relationships my overall scores reflect the tools provided by the companies to do this. Some explanation of my scores:

Family Tree DNA: B Overall. Because they have good tools. If they used phasing they would get an A- overall. They need to improve their family tree interface and ethnicity predictions.  
AncestryDNA: C Overall. They would get an A if they had tools for confirmation of relationships. The trees here can be so horrible which creates a problem. Some are great, but others just make me crazy. They do have a new tool called Circles which is mainly a novelty. They provide good matches; which, unfortunately need confirming elsewhere.  
23andMe: C Overall. This grade reflects the low query response rate, and the low level of family knowledge of the database matches.

I looked at this review of AncestryDNA yesterday and it inspired me to grade the companies: [My AncestryDNA Review: A Cautionary Tale](#). Interesting post.

The International Society of Genetic Genealogy has a [great page](#) comparing the DNA testing companies.

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Posted by [Annette](#) at [2:44 PM](#)    [5 comments:](#)    

Sunday, December 7, 2014

## Are The New Moderate Matches Good?

I had to correct this post again. Timber is a filter that AncestryDNA uses and could be a reason for the segment size differences? Breaking up of compound segments through phasing is another possible reason You can view an explanation of Timber [here](#).

Some people feel the Timber system is flawed? I would like to know more about it.

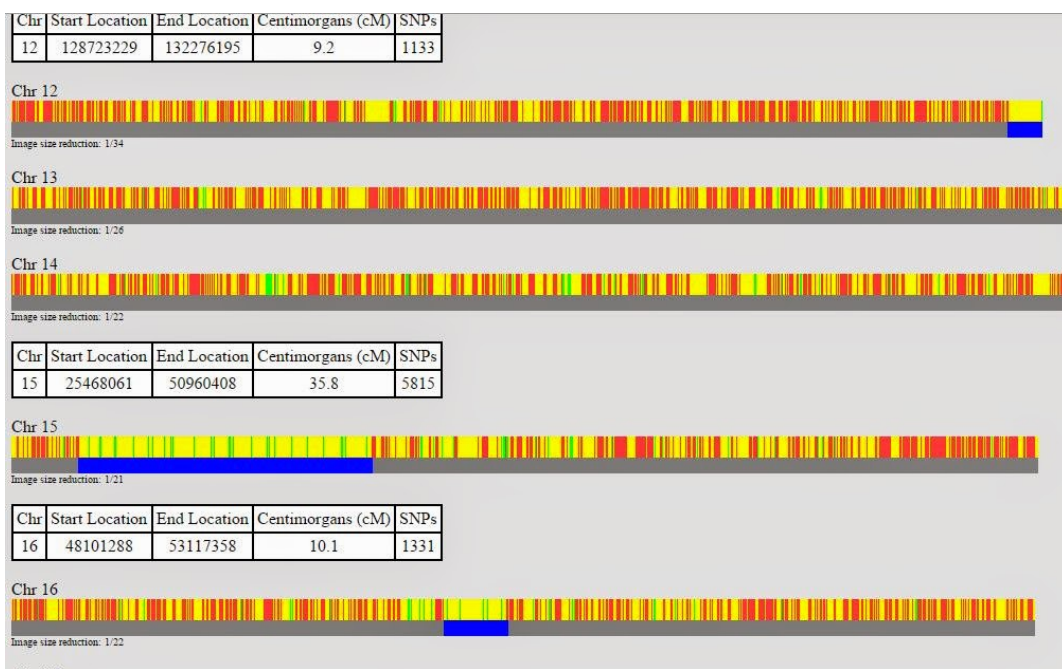
Because of the possibility of a phasing error I wouldn't completely disregard moderate matches. Some of these share large segments of DNA not reflected in the phased results. There is a phasing error rate of 1 for every 100 heterozygous sites in a sample.

Since GEDmatch is now working again I decided to do some research on my AncestryDNA matches. I was curious about those Moderate about 6cM and under matches. I did some searching on my Moderate match usernames to see if I could find any to compare with. A few had uploaded to GEDmatch and I quickly discovered the cM ranges they gave for Moderate matches were way off. I found that one of these matches shared a 15 cM segment and another an 18 cM segment, while yet another shared an 8 cM segment. Why put out these estimates at all? Why not explain these are Timber filtered and phased so the results can't be compared elsewhere?

The illustrations below demonstrate the differences between the Timber filtered and phased results from AncestryDNA and the unphased, unfiltered GEDmatch and Family Tree DNA results.

**The Extremely High match I found is obviously extremely good. Good call here.**

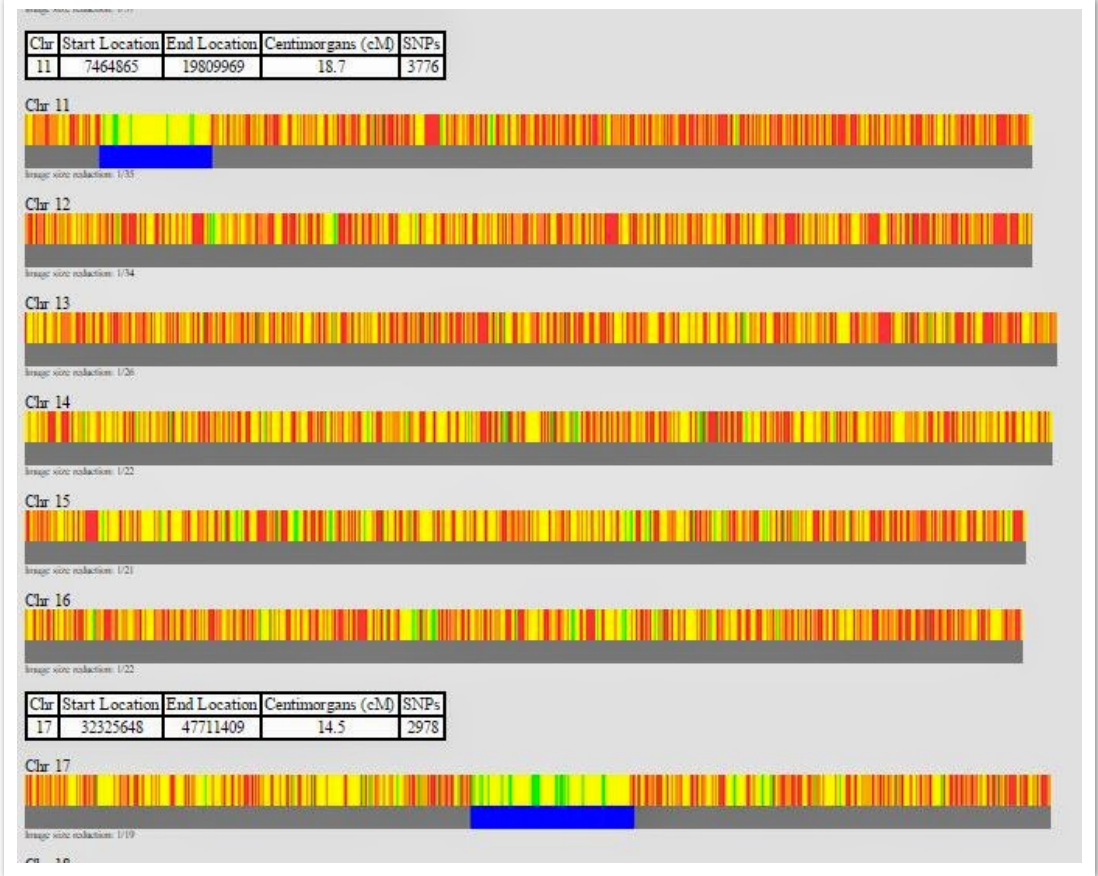




Confidence Score	Details
Extremely High	<p><b>Approximate amount of sharing:</b> More than 30 centiMorgans</p> <p><b>Likelihood you and your match share a single recent common ancestor (within 5 or 6 generations):</b> Virtually 100%</p> <p><b>Description:</b> You and your match share enough DNA to prove that you're both descendants of a common ancestor (or couple)--and the connection is recent enough to be conclusive.</p>

Now we move to a Very High Comparison. We share a couple segments so I'd agree.

Confidence Score	Details
Very High	<p><b>Approximate amount of sharing:</b> 20-30 centiMorgans</p> <p><b>Likelihood you and your match share a single recent common ancestor (within 5 or 6 generations):</b> 99%</p> <p><b>Description:</b> You and your match share enough DNA that we are almost certain you're both descendants of a recent common ancestor (or couple).</p>



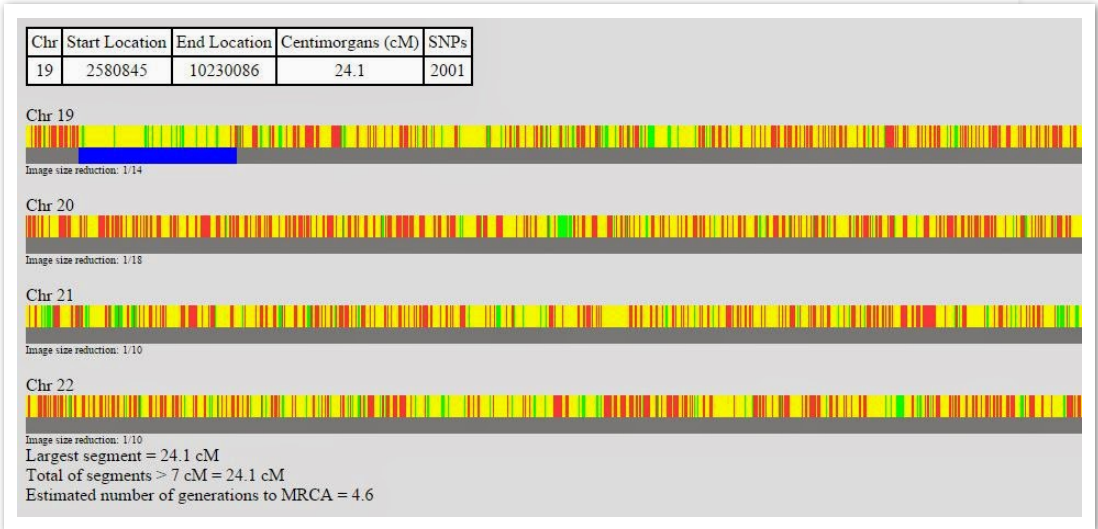
Just plain High. Ok we just have on segment so I'll go with that. It's near the range.

High

Approximate amount of sharing: 12-20 centiMorgans

Likelihood you and your match share a single recent common ancestor (within 5 or 6 generations): 95%

Description: You and your match share enough DNA that it is likely you're both descendants of the same common ancestor or couple, but there's a small chance the common ancestor(s) are quite distant and difficult to identify.



Now we move to Good matches which are sometimes better than High? I noticed that these Good matches also match me at Family Tree DNA and the segment sizes are

basically the same there, and they declare these matches to be 2nd to 4th Cousins instead of distant.

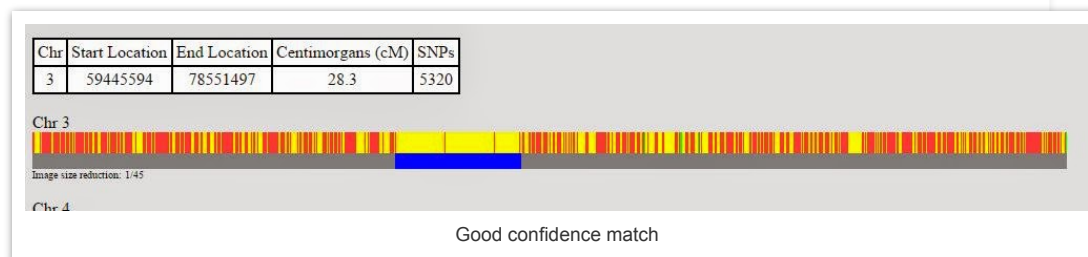
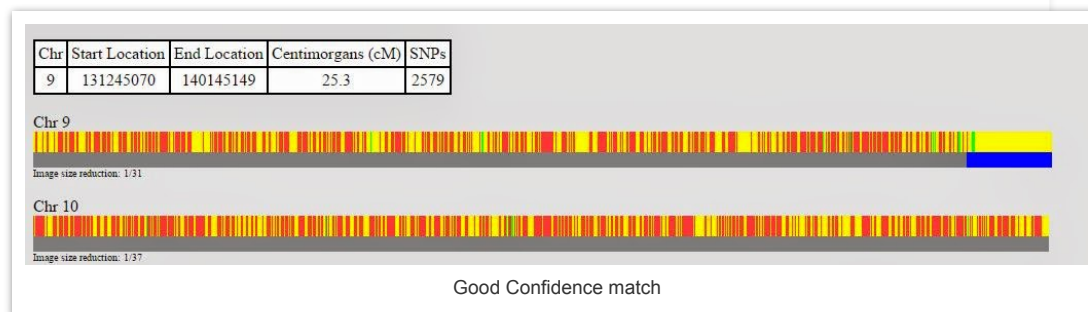
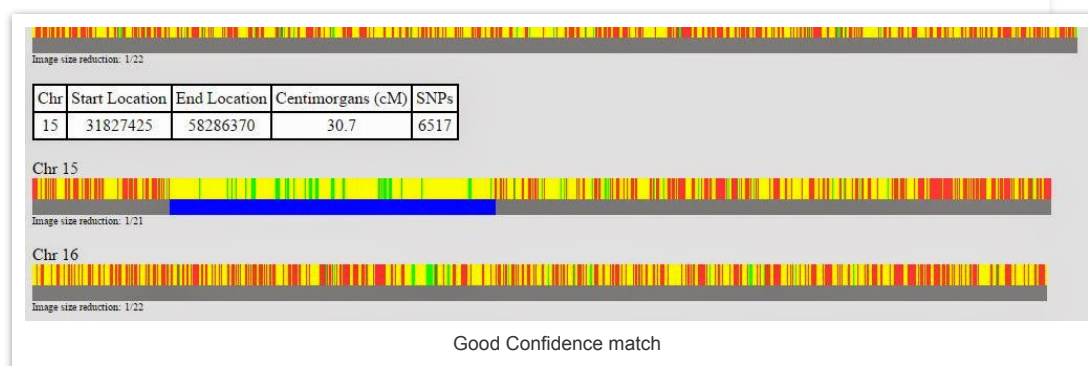
Good	<p>Approximate amount of sharing: 6-12 centiMorgans</p> <p>Likelihood you and your match share a single recent common ancestor (within 5 or 6 generations): More than 50%</p> <p>Description: You and your match share some DNA, probably from a recent common ancestor or couple, but the DNA may be from distant ancestors that are difficult to identify.</p>
------	--

Sort By: **Match Date**    Name: **staci**    Ancestral Surnames: **Apply**

Match Date	Relationship Range	Known Relationship	Shared cM
10/9/2013	2nd Cousin - 4th Cousin		48.00

ts Taken: **FMS**    + Compare in Chromosome Browser    Longest Block: 29.00    Y: N/A |

Download Matches:



Moderate matches are all over the place cM wise. Likely range from 5 cM's to 20 cM's.

Moderate

Approximate amount of sharing: 6 centiMorgans or less

Likelihood you and your match share a single recent common ancestor (within 5 or 6 generations): 20-50%

Description: You and your match might share DNA because of a recent common ancestor or couple, share DNA from very distant ancestors, or you may not be related.

Chr	Start Location	End Location	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs
6	157906506	167659759	18.3	3304

Chr 6

Image size reduction: 1/45

Chr 7

Image size reduction: 1/36

Chr 8

Image size reduction: 1/35

Moderate Confidence



Posted by Annette at 5:37 PM

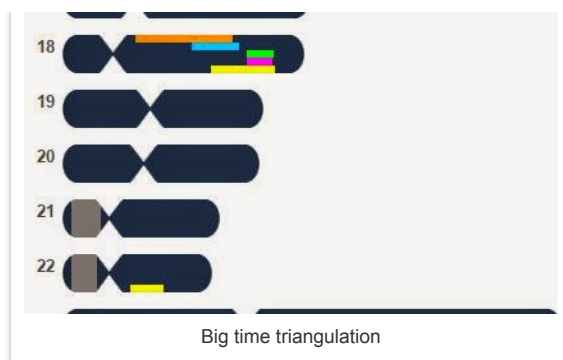
6 comments:

Wednesday, December 3, 2014

# How DNA Segment Data Has Helped Me







When I first took the Family Tree DNA, Family Finder autosomal DNA test, I had no idea how I could use the segment information to prove my matches. It seemed very complicated. I quickly found out the mechanics of it weren't that complicated at all, and it's necessary to prove relationships with cousins.

The first cousin I confirmed through DNA was a 5th cousin I had been collaborating with for several years. We could be fairly certain our segments came from our paper trail lines because we don't appear to have any other relationship according to our trees. When my Mom tested and shared the same segments we knew for certain they were IBD through my maternal line. We also could be sure we were not related through my mother's maternal side which is Nicaraguan, and my cousin has no Nicaraguan ancestry.

When examining the segment information for my 5th cousin we notice she shares more than one segment. I have found if someone shares more than one segment, including one over 10 cM's, and the others about 5 cM's or over, a relationship within the past 6 generations generally can be found. Also my 5th cousin has had her brother and aunt tested adding confidence to the IBD segments. We can see her brother shares a 5 cM segment which is IBD because 4 of us share on the same segment, and the others segments are in the high confidence, IBD size, range. All of us sharing these particular segments are descended from double first cousins. So we cannot say from which ancestral couple we received these segments? If we can find other cousins who match on these segments and they are not in our double first cousin line we could then say we got these segments from a particular ancestral couple.



I've been able to identify how other cousin matches are related in a similar way by fishing for them in my matches. I was only aware of one cousin in the Family Tree Data base when I started. By looking at the trees of my matches at Family Tree DNA I was able to find possible connections. When I spotted a shared ancestor I would use the "in common with" feature provided by FTDNA to see others who share DNA on the same segments. I would then



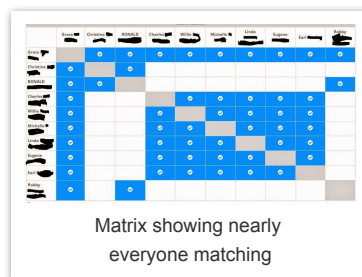
check to see if we had triangulation by using the chromosome browser tool. By comparing these matches 5 at a time I can spot individuals who share DNA on the same segment. If this person, sharing on an identified segment, had no tree posted I would email them to let them know we may share a common ancestral line based on segment sharing. I've been able to identify additional cousins sharing on the same segments that way.

I also check for ICW matches when I get a new match and the cousin relationship is closer than remote cousin.

Attempting to identify every possible match helps to firm up the segment data, and cross off some matches from the list. This could help brickwall related matches to surface by reducing the number of matches.

Through the process I described I was able spot 15 people sharing DNA in the same place on Chromosome 18. All of the shares are in the presumed IBD cM range. This could be a pile up area, but one person also matches with me on another chromosome, suggesting a closer ancestral connection rather than a pile up. Most of these matches don't have trees so it's impossible to draw a conclusion on who the common ancestors are?

It appears that the 2nd to 4th cousin match sharing a 33 cM, and 18 cM, segment might be related through the Wray family? The Wrays migrated to Allen County, Kansas in the 1850's. This particular match also had family in Allen County, Kansas. The surname Ray appears in another common match's tree. The places listed on a few other ICW matches trees also point to Wray/Morris being our shared line. I can't say all 15 people are from this line without more proof. I was reading [Roberta Estes' blog](#) the other day and was reminded about the Matrix which is another tool at Family Tree DNA. With this tool I was able to learn that all of the matches on segment 18 also match my 2nd to 4th cousin, with the Allen County, KS roots. This is encouraging me to pursue this further.



I have not been able to give my Irish and Nicaraguan segments family names. The only family surnames I know of in Nicaragua are Del Castillo and Garcia. In Ireland the only family surnames I know of are Mullen and Huvane/Huane. I have one Del Castillo match. I haven't found any cousin matches based on the other names. I always keep an eye out for these names.



The Nicaraguan matches don't usually have exact locations in Nicaragua. I know my family is from Granada, Nicaragua, so I keep an eye out for those matches. My Grandmother Graciela Del Castillo-Forgey had a number of Nicaraguan friends. I am familiar with their surnames, and I'm finding those names in our matches, names such as Lacayo and Chamorro. According to my Grandmother first cousins often married in Nicaragua so it may be difficult to separate out these DNA segments due to so much intermarriage. This may also be true on my Irish side, because the population was small in our ancestral locations. My family came from the Townland of Pollaturick in Galway, Ireland, and the Townland of Kilvine in Mayo, Ireland. I find it rewarding when my matches ancestors come from the same small area of Ireland as my family. I have a triangulation with several matches from the same small area of Ireland. Since most genealogical relevant records for Ireland have been destroyed I don't expect we'll ever find the names of the ancestors who passed these segments down to us. It's great to have the ancestral locations confirmed through DNA anyway.

Chr	Start Location	End Location	Centimorgans (cM)	SNPs
7	89,883,036	95,247,192	5.0	1,297

Chr 7

Image not available. 1:20

Itty bitty Owens segment. An unnamed company would call this a moderate match??

When it comes to brickwall lines and segments I haven't been able to use the segment data, yet, to absolutely prove a relationship. We need more segment matches to add weight to our paper trail inferences. Right now I only have segment data for single segment in a particularly challenging brickwall line. I have brickwall related matches at fill-in-the-blank ----- Company. They don't provide segment data. So I have no segment data on for these matches, I won't be able to triangulate or confirm these matches. The segment I have is only 5 cM's, which I can't be confident is IBD. It would be great to find more and larger segments, and triangulation on the brickwall lines.

How segment data has helped me:

1. They've provided actual proof that I'm related to a cousin. Without having the segment information there is no proof you are related to anyone. If a company provides you with a list of match names it's meaningless. We need to cite the DNA evidence like we cite documentation on our tree. We need to cite numbers and chromosomes. Not having this information is like only looking at an index to records without seeing the actual records. You don't have possession of the evidence without segment data.
2. I've been able to infer, then prove, a relationship with several matches based on matching on the same segments. Some of these people didn't have trees. When I emailed them they would often confirm the relationship through a particular line.
3. The segment information allows me to evaluate which matches are the most promising for further study; such as those sharing more than one segment.

Problems with segment comparison

1. Segment comparison in an endogamous population is not useful at this time. It only works well in mixed populations where there are more differences in the DNA
2. Many of us with Early American ancestry find a web of relationships among our matches which is hard to untangle. If you test enough family members this can often be over come.
3. Segments under 5 cM tend to be IBS and should not be used to draw conclusions. Some people are unaware of what the differences in segment size mean, and draw conclusions using IBS segments.

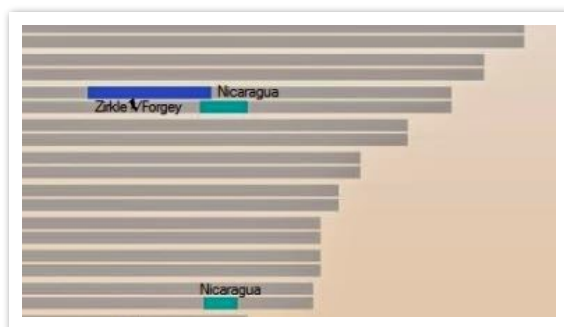
I've been able to work the DNA results by dividing them into piles based on ancestral locations. My family has such a varied ethnic heritage, making this possible. I can also divide matches by my maternal and paternal sides, because my Mom tested. My Mom's line can be divided in half because her mother was Nicaraguan, and her father was Northern European American. If I find a Nicaraguan match I can be confident it's from my Del Castillo/Garcia line. When I name segments I assign them to a couple based on the earliest shared ancestral couple on our trees.

The segment information has been the most useful, to date, in supporting my paper trails. Sometimes my paper trail is confirmed through shared ancestral names, other times it's shared places.

I have to say seeing the shared segments is rewarding. I mean actually seeing the shared segments with my own eyes. I think it's more exciting than seeing a list of match names.

Some blog posts about segments from authorities on the subject:

1. "The Folly of Using Small Segments as Proof in Genealogical Research" Part One. By CeCe Moore
2. "Small Matching Segments – Friend or Foe?" By Blaine Bettinger
3. "Chromosome Browser War" By Roberta Estes



Posted by [Annette](#) at [3:32 PM](#) 2 comments:

Friday, November 28, 2014

## Dear Myrtle Video Leads To Revisiting Of My Own Ethnicity Results

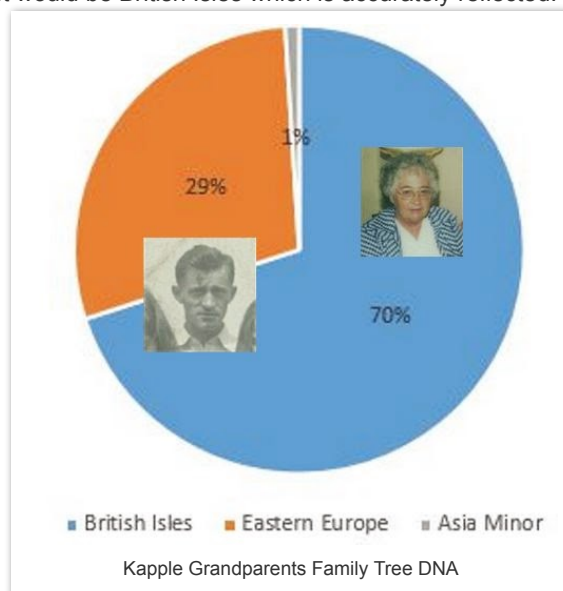
### AncestryDNA Ethnicity Estimates



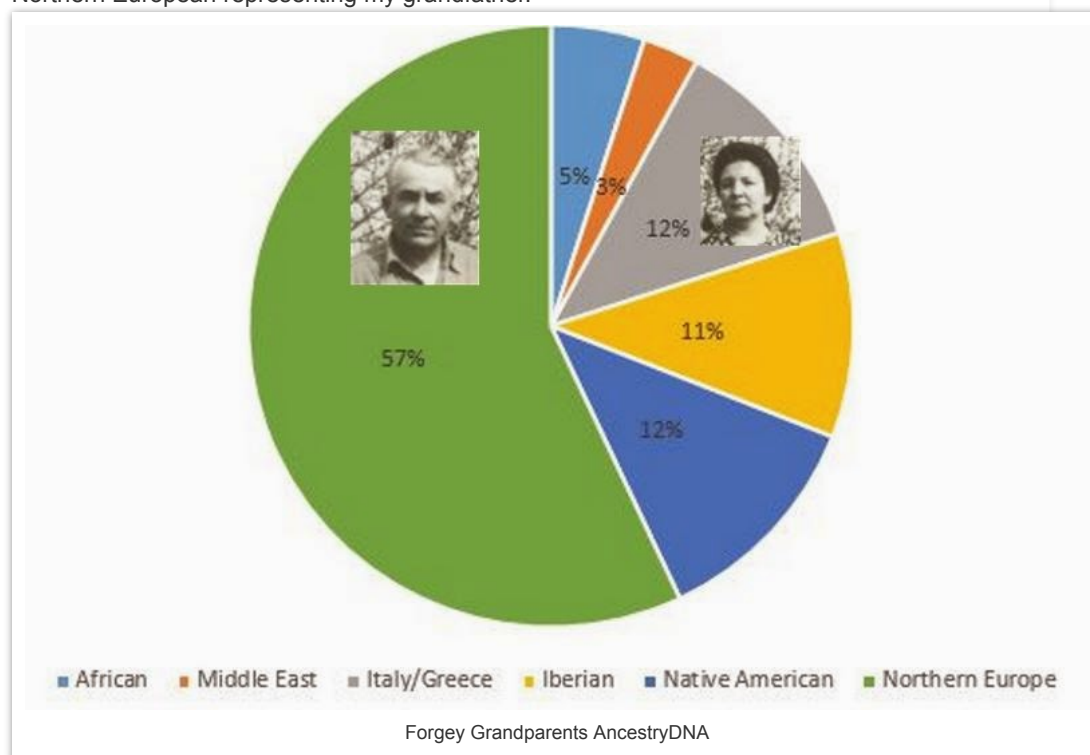
Looking at the AncestryDNA ethnicity results again after watching Dear Myrt's video I see that the Scandinavian population does overlap into Germany. Great Britain extends into France and Germany also. This would make more sense when it comes to interpreting my own admixtures. The ranges are so broad they really can't miss.

Looking at my Aunt's DNA ethnicity results from Family Tree DNA there are missing portions. My Grandfather Rudolph Kapple, my Aunt's father, was born in Hungary. His family lived in the Austro-Hungarian empire for centuries. Since my Aunt got half of her DNA from him half of the pie chart should reflect his ancestry, but 20 percent is missing? The 29% would be correct. I'm giving the 1% Asia Minor to him also. He didn't have any British ancestry that I could find. The other half of the pie chart representing my Grandmother Dorothy

Mason should show some Central European ancestry, since my grandmother was a quarter French, and the rest would be British Isles which is accurately reflected.



The suggested ethnic breakdown for my Forgey grandparents looks quite accurate at AncestryDNA. My Mom's pie chart should divide in half to represent her parents, and it nearly does.. I'm giving the Middle East result to my Grandmother Graciela Del Castillo believing that would more likely come from her line. The Native American has been identified as Mayan, and would be from her line too. She was born in Nicaragua. Her mtDNA is African so that would be her admix also. My Grandfather Charles Forgey was born in Indiana and his ancestry on paper is Scots-Irish and German. Half of my mother's results are representative of Northern European ancestry which would have come from my grandfather's line. I decided to label this pie chart according the admixtures of my grandmother, and just called the rest Northern European representing my grandfather.



These admixture estimates have come a long way since I first tested. They are getting much closer to correct. Although the margin for error they give themselves leaves room for interpretation in many different directions.

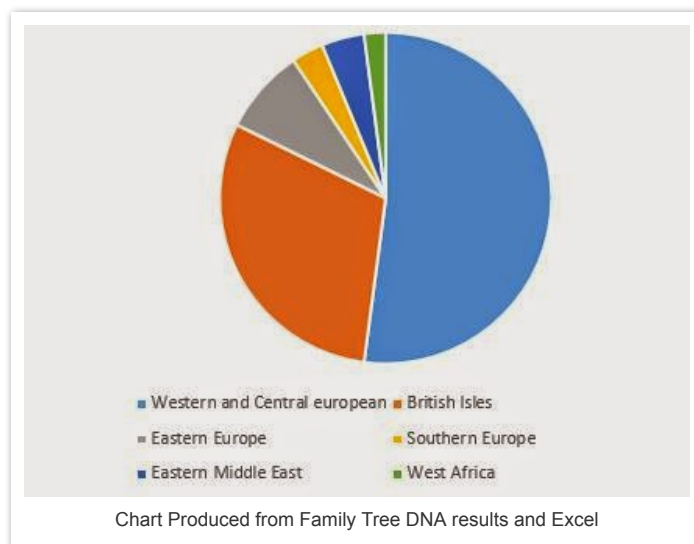
Posted by **Annette** at **3:46 PM**

No comments:



Wednesday, November 26, 2014

## "Finding Your Roots" Season Finale & What is AncestryDNA V.2 Worth?



The "**Finding Your Roots**" Season finale was one of their best shows of all time. I love seeing other peoples' admixture charts, and this episode focused on them more than usual. As promised DNA played a central role in this episode. Diversity was the theme of episode 10. DNA was used to show how interrelated we actually are.

Looking at the DNA charts presented for Jessica Alba you can definitely see the settlers of Mexico, like Central America in general, did mix with the Native population and African slaves. Central America is where my 2% African came from. The earliest settlers of the Spanish colonies in the New World were mostly male. They would often take local women or African slaves as concubines. The Caribbean had a longer history of slavery than Central America and a higher slave population; therefore, the African admixture is generally higher in those parts of former New Spain, than Mexico or Central America. So we see traces of African in Jessica's results, and her father's DNA, which are small compared to the Caribbean. Also it's common for Iberian descendants to have some Jewish admixture.

It's interesting that I listened to the Epilogue of Malcolm Gladwell's "Outliers" yesterday. A portion of the episode tied in with Malcolm's family's experience in Jamaica. Malcolm's mother was racially mixed. Instead of that being a barrier for her family it was actually an asset. When white slave owners took African slaves as wives their children actually moved up the social ladder and the children were no longer slaves. They weren't ostracized like the children of white slave owners in this country. This fact benefited his family for generations to come.

The opposite experience can be seen when looking at the Mulatto ancestry of Prof. Gates' and his relations in Virginia. CeCe Moore, the show's genetic research specialist, uncovered through DNA, a fascinating ancestral story. Looking for white ancestry in his tree she found a white slave owner who freed his female slave then did the unthinkable, he took her as his



wife. This was so unheard of and the local population was so dumbfounded by this, they couldn't decide how to categorize him? To them he was no longer part of the white community. They assumed he must be mulatto? His race was in flux on Census records during his lifetime. This slave owner's unusual position in society put his family in danger. They were forced to create their own settlement of Mulatto's in an isolated area. It's great to see that relatives still live in the same area. Descendants of this community come together for family reunions. The reunion shown in this episode was very moving.

Another surprising revelation during the show was that Gov. Deval Patrick's (first African American Governor of Massachusetts) direct line Y and mtDNA ancestors were white. Their haplogroups were European. He discovered what we all have, that we are no longer predominately from a single ethnic group in this country. This transformation began early on in American history. We are becoming more and more ethnically mixed. We are truly Americans. We hope this leads to better relations between different factions in this country?

My man Anderson Cooper had a brief appearance in this episode. He was happy to see some Chilean Indian blood in his admixture results.

It was great to finally see CeCe Moore, a professional genetic genealogist, appear on the show. Her contribution to the show was great. She was so composed on camera she should get her own genetic genealogy show.

During the final moments of the show Prof. Gates said goodbye "until next time" which we hope will be soon!

Just a few more words about AncestryDNA V.2. I was pretty happy with the results initially. Going through them a little more I'm finding cousins I've compared with, at GEDmatch and FTDNA, who shared more than 10 cM segments missing. Fewer matches isn't panning out to be better matches. I saw someone else post that the Extremely High confidence matches aren't as close cousins as the definition would suggest. There seems to be problems with their rating system and algorithms? We've lost some good strong matches, and they left in some terrible 6 cM and under matches? I guess that's what you'd expect from the company that declared everyone in the world is part Scandinavian and defended this finding when they were criticized.

Another factor diminishing the usefulness of the AncestryDNA V.2 product is the fact you can no longer download your matches. For a limited time you can download the V.1 matches, but you can't download your current match information. You could do this previously with the Ancestry Chrome DNA extension, which no longer is functional. CeCe Moore demonstrated how important it is to be able to easily sort through data about your matches' ancestors. She was able to find a pattern of shared ancestry which aided in finding the fascinating ancestor and story that was eventually uncovered for Prof. Gates. It would be great to be able to download names and locations so this kind of pattern can be uncovered. I don't expect AncestryDNA to ever do anything like this. AncestryDNA focuses on the superficial. They want to over simplify the process, to make it look like you only have to take the test to get all the answers without anymore effort on your part than posting a tree. Getting a true picture of your ancestry with DNA requires some effort, and can't be mass produced in factory assembly line style. People often don't read the instructions on how to interpret the results and assume the cousin relationships are exact. They don't feel the need to check the exact relationship. The entire product at Ancestry.com is a mix of excellent information and ridiculous speculation. Very odd!

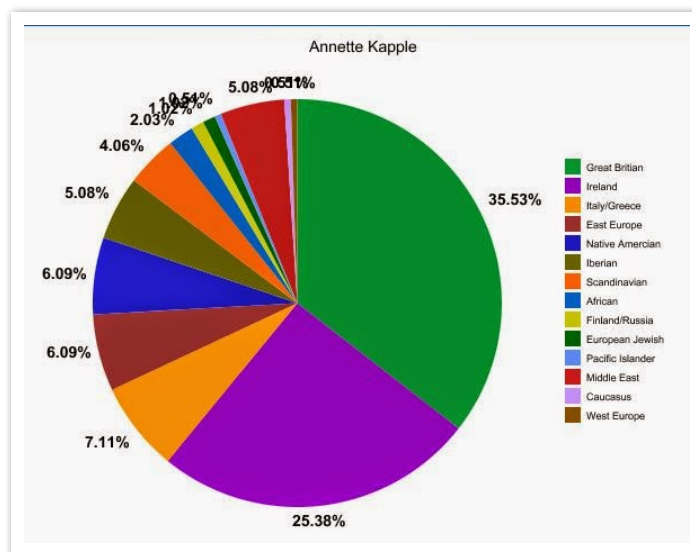
Portions of Ancestry.com's site should be labelled "for entertainment purposes only". If they had some serious DNA tools it would scare people into thinking that more than just testing is required of them. Some thinking may actually be required, god forbid?

Factoring in the diminished value of the AncestryDNA V.2 product I would say \$49 is what it's worth to me in its present state. I don't feel like its worth \$99 at this point.

Family Tree DNA has some great tools for the serious researcher, which make it worth the price. Unfortunately it has a much smaller database to compare with. We hope many more AncestryDNA testers take advantage of their raw data transfer offer, so we can confirm Ancestry's sketchy results. **By the way, Family Tree DNA is having a Holiday sale right now.**

I was in pie chart heaven while watching "Finding Your Roots" last night. I decided I need to make some of my own based on my results from AncestryDNA and Family Tree DNA. I realize that these results aren't cast in stone, but I enjoy looking at them anyway. I used Excel and the **Kids' Zone graph maker** that Randy Seaver had recommended for a "Saturday Night Fun" project.

**Happy Thanksgiving everyone!**



Posted by **Annette** at **2:12 PM** 1 comment:

Saturday, November 22, 2014

## Does AncestryDNA Respect The Genetic Genealogy Community?



For as long as Ancestry had been in the Autosomal DNA business the genetic genealogy community has been requesting the addition of a chromosome browser. Why should Ancestry cater to this community? What has this community done for them? Here is a partial list:

1. They are the best unpaid spokespeople the company has. They explain how the product works and how best to use it with presentations at conferences, on videos posted online, and in blogs.
2. They increase sales of the product through the same presentations.
3. The Facebook International Society for Genetic Genealogists group has 5,975 members (and growing). Whenever Ancestry has any kind of announcement or sale the news is posted here, and everywhere by genetic genealogists.
4. Serious genetic genealogists buy multiple kits. Using the ISOGG Facebook site as an example if, say, 3,000 of these members buy an average of 5 kits that's 15,000 kits sold.
5. I know that those who head the genetic genealogy community have increased sales for AncestryDNA by much more than 15,000 kits.
6. The word of mouth at sites like Facebook is probably one of the best advertising tools Ancestry has. The genealogy community in general at Facebook is very large. The genetic genealogy community members have non community members as friends, and they read our posts about testing at AncestryDNA and become interested themselves. I would think I have probably been responsible for around 12 (maybe even more?) people testing with Ancestry, and I'm not as influential as the others.
7. The genetic genealogy community also contributes some of the best researched, and most extensive trees that Ancestry has.

Why do we need a chromosome browser:

1. A majority of the members of the genetic genealogy community use a chromosome browser to compare their segments.
2. Comparing shared segments helps us to identify which family lines we are related on.
3. The size and number of segments is an important factor when it comes to determining how strong a match is.
4. Remember we had twice or three times more matches just a week ago. Many of us wasted a great deal of time on low quality matches that are now gone. Let us see the quality of our matches with our own eyes so we don't waste valuable time.
5. Working with a chromosome browser is educational and expands our minds. It's great to show this feature to children, and grandchildren, to get them interested in science. My Circles are fairly static so far. Some people have no circles. Don't think they will generate long term interest.

6. Sustaining interest is another good reason to introduce testers to segment comparison. Collecting segments gives people a reason to come back to the site. Static circles won't. New matches will mean more segments to compare. These new matches may not fit into a Circle.
7. The best argument is "Trust but verify" your results. You can only do this with a chromosome browser.

Genetic genealogy can be compared to stamp collecting or keeping a baseball scorecard while watching a game. Baseball enthusiasts record all of the game statistics, hits, runs etc. This is part of the fun for them. Genetic genealogy enthusiasts collect DNA segment information. This is also part of the fun of the process. Like stamp collectors we like to see the segments. Not seeing them is like a stamp collector buying stamps while the seller actually keeps them. You own them but can't see them? It's like the seller keeps telling you how nice the stamps you own are but you can't see them. AncestryDNA has our segment information locked away leaving us in the dark.

The new tools are a step in the right direction, but not good enough.

The argument against providing a chromosome browser has often been privacy. So why not do what 23andMe did and require those comparing to consent to do so?

AncestryDNA would get more positive word of mouth at social media sites if they provided a chromosome browser. I see a great deal of negative posts about AncestryDNA's refusal to provide a chromosome browser. Imagine the boost to sales if the posts were more positive!

Please demonstrate your appreciation to the Genetic Genealogy community for all they've done for AncestryDNA and add a chromosome browser.

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Posted by [Annette](#) at [12:31 PM](#)    No comments:    

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

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Saturday, June 13, 2015

## SCGS Jamboree 2015 and Global Family Reunion



Just Genealogy in Second Life (an Official site for Global Family Reunion) had presentations in support of Global Family Reunion, and raised money for Alzheimer's

I listened to the Livestream from SCGS's Jamboree, and the Global Family Reunion last weekend. Both events provided interesting information and entertainment. The Global Family reunion was outstanding. Very entertaining. Some great comedy between presentations. They got a jab in at Ancestry. One comedian said it seems like every ancestor, for example, is a whaling captain according to Ancestry's commercials. But someone had to steal the horses too?

Prof. Gates announced he is helping to create a curriculum using DNA testing for middle school students.

**You can watch recorded videos from Global Family Reunion here: Free Videos**

<http://livestream.com/GlobalFamilyReunion>

**Video from Jamboree Livestream Free:** <http://livestream.com/wab/live1>

**Audio Jamboree Pay \$11 per session:**

<http://www.myconferenceresource.com/products/44-02-scgs-dna-jamboree-conference-2015.aspx>

**[Some of the sessions I listened to and my thoughts about them.](#)**



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## Ross Curtis, PhD Ancestry DNA- The Latest Innovations in DNA Technology and Science and What They Mean for You

This session contained some interesting info. A study was done by Ancestry comparing the DNA of cousins to see how often small segments were shared. According to the presenter when you compare the DNA of 3 first cousins they will all share a small 5 cM segment 85% of the time. With 5 first cousins small segments were shared 40% of the time. When they compared 10 first cousins they didn't find that any of these shared the same small segment (must have been a different group?). In the case of the 3rd cousin level small 5 cM segments are shared about 15% of the time (the other scientists in the study couldn't believe it was really as high as 15% of the time. This is the mentality we are dealing with at Ancestry). With 4th cousins it's practically zero percent who share the small segments.

This scientist said you can't use segments of DNA to find a common ancestor? Actually that is what they are doing. They are using trees, plus shared DNA to form the Circles. He also said specific segments cannot bring people together? So what are the Ancestral Discoveries about?

If I were there I would have asked more hard hitting questions than the audience did. Some of the softball questions regarded things like profile photos not displaying properly? The only possible hope of getting something out of Ancestry Circles would be if they added more features so we can analyze the quality of the matches. He didn't sound confident about providing any more information. I would at least like to know the size of the segments I share with someone, plus how many segments we share, at the very least.

If we test every relative we meet we can strengthen the Circle matches (plus empty our pockets). Not interested. He also stated that when they create Circles each person is given a score based on the likelihood they share the Circle ancestor. They look at the information shared in common on the trees. They also look at how complete the trees are. If a person doesn't have a very complete tree, containing enough identifying information they won't likely have many, or any, Circles. One reason for this is that Ancestry has discovered something many of us have, we can share more than one family line with a match. When Ancestry's analysis finds more than one possible relationship to members of a Circle they can't place you in a Circle; no way to know which Ancestors you got the DNA from. If your tree is mostly empty they can't evaluate whether you could be related another way, so this could keep you out of Circles too. This is all complicated, and leaves many people out of the Circles. I would say the Circles I have are correct for me. The Ancestry Discoveries are all cousins, or in-laws.

Listening to the Ancestry spokes holes is pretty aggravating. Of course the presenter, who developed the Circles, has 73 Circles (he did say the fact he developed them has something to do with that). Some of his Circles are weak, so he is not certain if he is really related the way some of the Circles imply. The best way to confirm that is with traditional research, instead of testing more relatives.

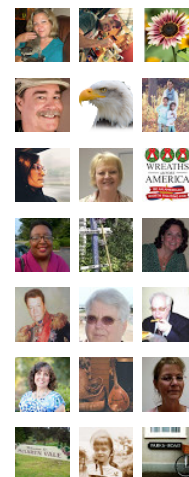
The way this Ancestry scientist was talking they don't believe anyone who tests with Ancestry is capable of understanding the science of genetics. At one point he said I hope I didn't lose you? Maybe I'm pretty stupid to have tested with them? He may be right. Thank god the photo issue is being worked on (he's a scientist so that's not his job, as he told the audience member). He also didn't know whether maintaining a subscription was required to keep access to the DNA results (odd he didn't want to talk about the particulars of that). I've tested with 23andMe recently and hope to get better results over there.

### Kathy Johnston, MDC

#### Adventures Around the World with X, Y, and Mitochondrial DNA

This was an interesting presentation. I'm interested attempting to figure out family migrations

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using DNA also. She demonstrated that the X chromosome can be useful.

### **Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS**

#### **Debunking Misleading Records**

Really made me think about the quality of my sources. We really have to consider whether documents we are basing conclusions are the best sources with the most accurate possible information. Also we need to consider whether a document may have been tampered with? Of course clerks were prone to mistakes, like all of us, so even official records contain wrong information. Informants providing information on documents often provide some wrong details.. All of this means you can't rely on any one document alone.

### **Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS**

#### **Can A Complex Research Problem be Solved Solely Online?**

Fascinating case study was presented to demonstrate what can be done online. Can a complex problem be solved solely online? "Yes but..."

### **Blaine T. Bettinger, PhD, JD and Paul Woodbury**

#### **Genetic Genealogy and the Next Generation**

Interesting presentation. They presented research regarding testing trends. Trends reflect immigration patterns. Interesting they found nearly half of the young people who test for ethnicity find they are more interested in another aspect of their results.

### **Lisa Louise Cooke**

#### **Update: Google! Everything New that You Need to Know for Genealogy**

This was an interesting presentation. I learned [Google Earth Pro](#) is now Free. It has extra features which you can use to create tours of ancestral areas. Someone asked a question about operators used to narrow a search with Google search. They asked if phrases such as OR must be capitalized. The answer was yes. When I tried capitalizing using AND with search I got some different results than when I just used the +. I found a Nicaraguan library with a [digital collection](#) which should be helpful.

### **Dr. Michael D. Lacopo**

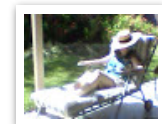
#### **Methods For Identifying the German Origins of American Immigrants**

Interesting presentation packed with information on how to find the Church and Civil boundaries of areas our German ancestors lived in. You can't find the records unless you know the jurisdictions. He also talked about reading the records, which look pretty difficult to decipher. But, like he explained, you get used to the handwriting style of the clerk and certain phrasing for birth, death, marriage, name, are repeated so you'll know exactly what is being referred to. I found, with the Austro Hungarian records, once I got used to the structure of the Church book entries I could understand what was being conveyed, even though I didn't know the language.

Posted by [Annette](#) at [12:13 AM](#) 1 comment: 

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## About Me



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## Feedjit

Friday, May 22, 2015

## In Search Of...."Viking DNA"



The pariahs of ancient Britain are now the beloved ancestors of modern descendants. Who would have predicted that during the invasions?

Personally I wouldn't have my DNA tested to find so called "Viking DNA". When someone's DNA is tested it isn't like tiny Vikings are found swimming in their DNA and pronounced Viking. Some haplogroups and subclades are more common among the Scandinavians. Vikings did invade Britain mixing their DNA with the earlier migrants. It would appear that many I1 Haplogroup members in Britain likely did have this Haplogroup passed down to them through Vikings invasions. Another source of I1 would have been from the Anglo/Saxons, Jutes and Frisians, and of course later migrations. Historical research, archeology, and DNA can shed light on these different origins.

The Viking DNA question came up in our Forgey DNA project. So far most of our Forgey/Forgey & Forgie testers have matched each other in our Y DNA project; and they are grouped together in the I2b haplogroup. Some R1b's surfaced and were found to be the result of line breaks due to the surname coming down a female line, instead of a male line. We have two testers, however, who don't match our other Forgey group members and don't match each other. They were expected to match each other, at the very least, because they are 5th cousins on paper. Looking at the paper trail for these two people we can't find the explanation for the break? According to a biography for one of their Forgey ancestors, Robert Forgey, was an Irish immigrant to America in the 18th Century. This corresponds with the rest of our other Forgey/Forgies, who arrived in America around the same time and were Scots-Irish. My theory is the name Forgey/Forgey & Forgie is a variant of Ferguson as stated in a book written about Irish surnames, which was based on a government report on Irish surnames. Not all Fergusons are related, and throughout time there have been breaks in surname lines which could explain these two 5th cousins not matching the rest of us. So my questions are when did the break occur between these cousins, and does one of their lines go back to Ireland and the surname Ferguson? Did both of their lines have a break after this Robert Forgey arrived in America?

One of the lines is our beloved "Viking haplo" I1 M253, or the haplogroup often attributed to the Vikings by testing companies. Looking at their match list about half a dozen of this I1 Forgey's 42 matches, at 37 markers, are Scandinavian. This as opposed to our I2b haplogroup which is predominantly made up of Scottish and Scots-Irish matches with a couple Spanish matches, but no Scandinavians. I've been analyzing this person's I1 results over and over trying to figure out if this person's ancestors could indeed have been Scots-Irish, as stated in the 19th Century biography? Another possible explanation is a break occurred in this Forgey family in the Great Plains area where the family later migrated to in the 19th Century from Pennsylvania? I've been wavering back and forth on that question.

The Scandinavians are high up on this person's match list. In fact their closest match is

a Norwegian man, who apparently still lives in Norway. This had led me to believe the break occurred on the Great Plains in the US. The myOrigins ethnicity prediction for this Forgy doesn't show any Scandinavian admixture. It shows 100% British Isles. The ethnicity predictions at Family Tree DNA are notoriously off, so the lack of Scandinavian admix may not mean much. Looking at this persons Family Finder results we find one match with a couple Scandinavian lines. This match shares a 32 cM segment. This person also has British Isles ancestry so it's hard to say where the 32 cM segment comes from?

Here is an example of this Forgy's top matches from haplogroup I M253:

1		Y-DNA37 FF	Peter Håkansson 5NAR, b. 1820 and d. 1865	I-M253		4/12/2013
2		Y-DNA67 FF		I-M253		1/9/2012
2			William Walker, Louisa Co., VA, d. 1814	I-M253		11/24/2010
3		Y-DNA37 FF	Pehr Svensson b1744 d 1796-02-10	I-M253		6/3/2014
3		Y-DNA67 FF	Lars Olofsson, 1689 - 1726	I-M253		11/8/2013
3		Y-DNA37 FF	Katonak, Hirs, Hurst, Herst	I-M253		8/27/2013
3		Y-DNA67 FF		I-M253		4/2/2013
3		Y-DNA37 FF	John Carpenter 1817 -1 850	I-M253		11/10/2011
3		Y-DNA67 FF	James Price Andrews	I-M253		9/23/2011
3		Y-DNA111 FF	Carl Magnus Collander; b.1760-, Vaasa, Finland	I-P109	P109	11/24/2010
3			Joseph Ray, 1676 - 1746	I-M253		2/15/2012
4		Y-DNA67 FF	Jöns Olofsson, b. 1663 and d. 1737	I-M253	M253	5/14/2015

This Forgy's 42 matches mostly consist of Scandinavian and British matches and one Slovakian match. This is a very unusual match makeup as compared to all of the other Scottish and Scots-Irish match results that have been shared with me.

Here is the information from the Ancestral Origins list Family Tree DNA provides (comparing at 37 markers):

GENETIC DISTANCE -1				
Country	Match Total	Country Total	Percentage	Comments
Sweden	1	1777	0.1%	
GENETIC DISTANCE -3				
Country	Match Total	Country Total	Percentage	Comments
England	1	24513	< 0.1 %	
Finland	1	2570	< 0.1 %	
Scotland	1	12147	< 0.1 %	
Slovakia	1	386	0.3%	
Sweden	2	1777	0.1%	
United Kingdom	1	8238	< 0.1 %	
GENETIC DISTANCE -4				
Country	Match Total	Country Total	Percentage	Comments
England	7	24513	< 0.1 %	
Estonia	1	52	N/A	
Finland	1	2570	< 0.1 %	
Norway	2	1497	0.1%	
Scotland	1	12147	< 0.1 %	
Sweden	5	1777	0.3%	
United Kingdom	2	8238	< 0.1 %	
United States	1	886	0.1%	

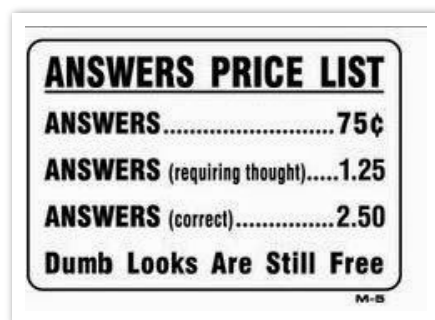
This can be contrasted with the results of another I1 Haplogroup member who has confirmed Scottish ancestry going back to the Middle Ages (comparison at 67 markers) No Scandinavians:

GENETIC DISTANCE -3				
Country	Match Total	Country Total	Percentage	Comments
United Kingdom	1	4226	< 0.1 %	
GENETIC DISTANCE -4				
Country	Match Total	Country Total	Percentage	Comments
Ireland	3	8322	< 0.1 %	
Scotland	5	6886	0.1%	
United Kingdom	1	4226	< 0.1 %	
GENETIC DISTANCE -5				
Country	Match Total	Country Total	Percentage	Comments
Northern Ireland	1	691	0.1%	
Scotland	6	6886	0.1%	
GENETIC DISTANCE -6				
Country	Match Total	Country Total	Percentage	Comments
England	1	11235	< 0.1 %	
Ireland	2	8322	< 0.1 %	
Northern Ireland	1	691	0.1%	
Scotland	3	6886	< 0.1 %	
GENETIC DISTANCE -7				

Since there are UK matches I can't dismiss the possibility that this Forgy's ancestors were Scots-Irish, as stated in Robert Forgy's biography. This could be his Haplogroup? The other descendant of Robert Forgy has numerous matches, because he is in the R1b Haplogroup. One of his surname matches suggests the possibility of a break in his line, and his surname coming down through a female line. So far the R1b Forgy hasn't taken the autosomal test, which could establish whether there was a break in both of these lines or just one? If they match on the autosomal it would suggest that the R1b tester's surname came down a female line.

I believe we may be able to compare 2 fourth cousins from these separate branches of Robert Forgy's descendant lines? Hopefully that will answer some of our questions?

I am not sure if we are looking at ancient Scandinavian roots on the I1 Forgy's match list or something much closer? Do the results suggest Viking origins? I'm not expert enough to answer that question. Hopefully these mysteries can be answered at some point.



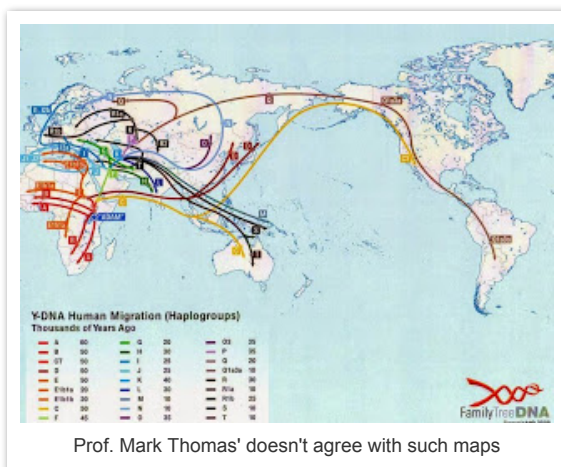
Posted by [Annette](#) at [4:52 PM](#) No comments:

Location: [Latin America](#)

Tuesday, May 19, 2015



# The PT Barnum Affect: Y And mtDNA Testing?



Prof. Mark Thomas' doesn't agree with such maps

I listened to a presentation by the Population Geneticist Mark Thomas this past weekend. The presentation was from the "Who Do You Think You Are?" the live event, **"Ancestry Testing Using DNA: the pros and cons."** Prof. Thomas did bring up some great points about some of the unscrupulous practices being employed to sell test kits. I think it's great to educate the public regarding what can and can't confidently be established using DNA testing.

I believe that fairly accurate information about the origins of Haplogroups is being presented by companies like Family Tree DNA. I think these predictions will just get better in the years to come. The Professor stated he felt the full sequence autosomal DNA test would provide more accurate information about the origins of our ancestors. He doesn't feel like the mtDNA or Y DNA results provide accurate information about the origins of populations. He seems to question the whole idea of Haplogroups? There is controversy in the academic community regarding what can and can't be proven regarding dating population migrations and the origins of Haplogroups.

This presentation was aimed at a UK audience and I don't know what the marketing for the testing is like there? Or the reasons the average person would decide to test? I don't think the descriptions below regarding the reasons for testing would apply to most of us in the US. Many people are interested in establishing a relationship to a famous person, everywhere. I'm skeptical about the other motives listed below. I feel like all of the reasons are stereotypes and hurt the reputation of genetic genealogists. What should be stated, instead of using insulting stereotypes, is that it's this scientists opinion that ancient origins in a particular area can't be proven using Y and mtDNA.

Prof. Thomas Mark's reasons why people "indulge" in interpretive phylogeography:

1. **the desire to say somebody is the descendant of some ancient king, princess, warrior or famous person**
2. **the desire to mould a population's history or individual's ancestry back to some nationalist agenda**
3. **the desire to make spectacular claims about population history / human evolution**
4. **The Forer effect/ Barnum effect Explains the popularity of horoscopes etc**

My own interest in DNA testing using the Y and mtDNA tests has generally been for reasons

sanctioned by the Prof. Mark Thomas, comparing markers with cousins. I'm also interested establishing the origins of the surnames Forgey and Kapple. I know our Forgey family was Scots-Irish, which has been established using DNA and traditional genealogy research. A journal states the family was in Ulster during a particular uprising, and it was stated in the same journal the ancestor knew the words to a ballad about the uprising. There are factions in the family which believe Forgey is a French name brought to Scotland by the Normans. My opinion is it's a variant of Ferguson and isn't a Norman name. In this case I'm looking to Y DNA to prove the family was in Scotland before the Normans. In the case of my Kapple /Koppel surname everyone felt it was an Ashkenazi name, the family looks Ashkenazi and knew some Yiddish. So far the autosomal testing isn't showing any of that admixture? Our Y testing is showing a J2b haplogroup. Our family was Catholic for 200 years and existing records can't help us to go back any further. In these cases I'm looking to prove, or disprove family stories, with the help of Y and mtDNA. I believe this should be possible.

Many adoptees in the US have no information about their family's ethnic origins. Using Y and mtDNA testing can be very helpful for them. The descendants of former slaves would like to reclaim their stolen heritage.

There are valid reasons for pursuing the origins of haplogroups when it comes to genetic genealogy. Academic stereotyping, and condescension, hurts the reputation of those who are pursuing the subject based on valid intellectual curiosity.

Prof. Mark Thomas stated, why would it be important to establish the origins of one or two lines when everyone in Europe is related not so long ago? Everyone in Europe is Viking etc., etc. I'm not interested in establishing the origins of every line. I'm interested in my maternal and paternal family surnames. It sounds like many in Europe are looking for the villages or migration patterns of their families, and linking rare surnames to particular areas. Reading many papers about the subject of locating origins using Y and mtDNA I realize we have a ways to go when it comes to establishing these connections with a high degree of confidence.

I think the academic community would rather not see genealogists affiliate themselves with population genetics. I believe some members of that community are out of touch when it comes to the goals of the average genealogist. There is much handwringing in that community about dark ulterior motives when it comes to testing for ethnicity.

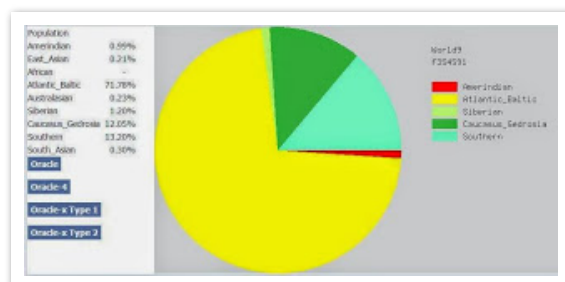
There is a valid criticism of the lack of scientific backing for claims made by testing companies. I agree, and would like to see more papers on the subject containing evidence for claims made by all of these companies. I'm not against critical review, but I'm against stereotyping and blanket comments about the motives for testing. Calling DNA testing Astrology gets a lot of attention in the press, and is a good strategy for getting attention, but it has been used to discredit the valid uses of DNA for genealogy, whether that is what Prof. Mark Thomas intended this or not, this terminology has been used to discredit the entire genetic genealogy community. I would just like to see a more respectful debate. It would be great to see critics of the ancestry testing companies, and company representatives on stage at a conference debating all of this.



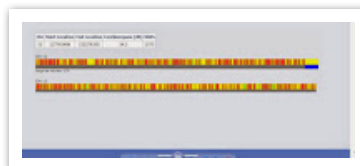
Posted by [Annette](#) at [4:01 PM](#) 2 comments:

Tuesday, May 5, 2015

## Where Is Our Native American DNA? Plus Consider The Source



We had some good news a couple weeks ago when someone from a line that matched our Owens family on the Y test perfectly, at 25 markers, also matched my family on the autosomal test. The fact they matched both at AncestryDNA and Family Tree DNA is a good sign. Anyone who survives the AncestryDNA process plus shares common ancestors is likely a true match. When this test came back, from AncestryDNA, GEDmatch wasn't able to process new accounts so we couldn't compare immediately. Another test for a confirmed distant cousin of this match had come in a little before this. This person wasn't able to create a new account at GEDmatch either. Lucky I had created extra accounts at GEDmatch that I never used. When I finally remembered the passwords for these accounts I was able to give them the accounts to use. I found out my family shared a 14.3 cM segment with one of them, but didn't share any DNA segments with the other. This is to be expected because our connection is 7 generations back. It's incredible that even one of them matched us.



According to many sources, including contemporary sources, John Owens had an Indian wife. It's not known for certain which of his children had a Native American mother, or

whether all of his children were part Native American? Around a dozen descendants of John Owens have tested, and so far no one has any Native American admixture according to all three testing companies. Trace amounts of Native Admixture can be seen using the GEDmatch admixture utilities. My Aunt shows the highest amounts at GEDmatch of around 2%. Most descendants come out with 1%, or less, admixture using the most sensitive and optimistic projects at GEDmatch. I'm not sure if all this is just noise, and none of John's children, who carried his surname, are children of his Native wife?

I know that DNA from distant ancestors is lost as the generations pass. I wonder about the lack of Native American DNA in those families with traditions of Native American ancestry? It could be that many families just passed down a family tradition not based in fact? It could be that the Native ancestor lived so long ago that no trace of their DNA is visible with the current autosomal tests? I also wonder if the testing companies tell people that no Native American is showing up because that ancestor lived so long ago is just to satisfy customers unhappy with the lack of the sought after Native American results?

### **"An Extream bad collection of Broken Innkeepers, Horse Jockeys, and Indian Traders"**

Brigadier General John Forbes described the character of his provincial troops with the terms above (he probably would wonder why I would be interested in establishing my relationship to these people?).

Genealogical research in Western Pennsylvania during the Colonial era is difficult because so few records were kept. There are no early marriage records. County marriage records weren't recorded until well into the 19th century. Dower releases weren't required in early Pennsylvania either making finding wives names even more difficult.

It's also difficult to find men listed in early deed books in Pennsylvania. Many men took out warrants to survey land, but later abandoned the land without actually finishing the granting process.

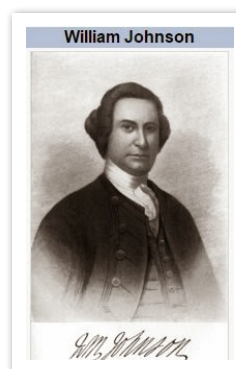
Considering the above it is a challenge to find anything about people living in the frontier area of Pennsylvania during the Colonial and early American era. Military letter writers and personal journals have been the best sources I have found for my family during this time period.

Unfortunately I've had to rely on the typed transcripts from the Pennsylvania Archive book collections. This source is wonderful to a point. I have found a least one first name wrongly transcribed. I found the error in a list of names where the first name of the man above was mistakenly copied twice. Typed transcripts aren't my favorite sources but have to suffice until the originals become available, if they ever do?

Another problem I've had to contend with is how do evaluate the credibility of these letter and journal writers? I'm not always sure if what they are relating is from first hand knowledge?

I've been trying to confirm the assumption that David Owens the soldier in Pennsylvania and New York, was John Owens', the Western Pennsylvania based Ohio Country Indian Trader's, son.

According to a **single source** from one contemporary writer, Sir William Johnson, David Owens was the son of an Indian trader who traded with the Delawares and the Shawnees. The only Owens we have found who is known to have traded with them was my ancestor John Owens. We only have this circumstantial evidence suggesting John and David were



father and son.

I did some research on Sir William Johnson in order to determine whether it could be our David Owens he was speaking of, and whether he would have access to this kind of information. He came to this country from Ireland in 1738. He settled in the Mohawk Valley of New York. He was involved in the fur trade and was well acquainted with George Croghan (John Owens sometimes boss) who also owned land in the Mohawk Valley (I'm not sure if John Owens also spent time in the Mohawk Valley of New York?). George Croghan became Sir William Johnson's Deputy Superintendent of Indian Affairs. In 1756 Sir William Johnson was made "Sole Agent and Superintendent of Indians and their Affairs", and was also responsible for helping to raise troops to fight in Indian territory. In the 1764 letter he wrote, describing David's father, he also stated David had been garrisoned at his house. This didn't seem to fit with David son of John Owens because his father was a trader with a trading post in Western Pennsylvania. Johnson also stated that David was in Capt. McClean's company. I found out that a Capt. Allen McLean's company was part of General Forbes expedition which traveled through Pennsylvania on its way to take Fort Duquesne from the French. Locals were used in Forbes campaign. This could be how David hooked up with this company. McLean's company later moved on to campaigns around New York.

After completing this research I think it is possible that Sir William Johnson's letter may contain credible information. He could have received his information about David's father from David himself or from George Croghan? On the other hand he could have assumed he was the son of John Owens based on the common last name? It would be great to have more support for this relationship. Hopefully more will surface in the future.

I don't think that a Colonial official would have a reason to make a false statement regarding David Owens' father. A soldier named Robert Kirkwood wrote of a David Owens in his memoir. His memoir was highly embellished with exaggerated stories. I take much of this type of work with a grain of salt. He stated a David Owens he was held captive with was born in Pennsylvania. Kirkwood and David are together in Pennsylvania after their supposed escape from Indian captivity in the 1750s. Kirkwood later ends up fighting in New York at Ticonderoga, and may have been encouraged by David Owens to desert in 1761, when David himself deserted. Again I can see how David may have gotten to New York and garrisoned at Sir William Johnson's house.

It is hard to judge the veracity of people providing us with information recently. It's so much harder to judge the veracity of the writers who wrote about the Owens family a couple hundred years ago (this is where DNA testing can help). I tend to believe those accounts which were written by Military and Colonial Officials and contemporary journalists; but, memoirs being removed in time from events and prone to exaggeration are less trustworthy. I'm hoping to see more original manuscripts published online. The manuscript collections are invaluable sources for Pennsylvanian research. I've made quite a bit of progress using these collections and hope to unearth even more.

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Posted by [Annette](#) at [5:05 PM](#)    [3 comments:](#)    

Thursday, April 2, 2015

## New AncestryDNA Circles: You Need A BIG tree!



**New Ancestor Discoveries** BETA

These are people who are not already in your family tree (Close to Perfect)

We found you new ancestors—just by looking at your DNA.

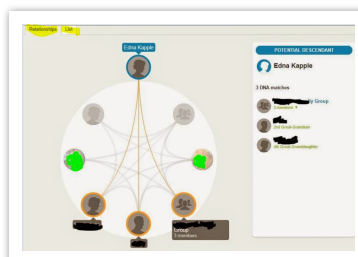
Our latest scientific innovations make it possible to discover ancestors you never knew you had—just through your DNA. It's an entirely new path to finding your family story.

[Learn more](#)

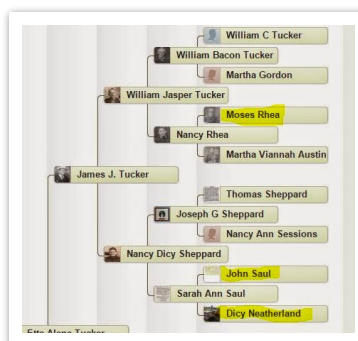


No you just found some new in-laws for us

For everyone who thought DNA would eliminate the need for old fashioned family tree research the new Circles rolled out today at AncestryDNA would seem to dash that hope. DNA provides hints, but as someone reminded me recently digging through records at courthouses etc. is the only way to confirm a relationship. Today Ancestry finally rolled out DNA only Circle matches. Before only those with a tree plus segments matches were included in the Circles.



I was initially excited when checking my Mom's DNA Circles because she had a new couple with Campbell in their descendants' trees. Doing more research I discovered the verified ancestral match was most likely on our Wray line. The new Circles require checking the trees of each person in the Circle to establish the connection. When I did that I noticed that a descendant in the Wray line married into the new couple line. I found this fact in two trees provided by Circle matches. The others did not have large enough trees. We are not blood relatives of this couple as far as I know at this time. It's possible we are related to the descendants of the line through both Campbell and Wray? However that still would mean we aren't descended from the couple presented to us in the Circles. My Mom is an Extremely High confidence match with some of the descendants of this heretofore unknown couple. It appears everyone in the Circle is descended from ancestors who migrated to Texas. None of my ancestors settled in Texas, our connection would have to be earlier, before the 1820's.



This tool is supposedly designed to help those who haven't put together any family tree, or have a very small tree. I don't see this helping them very much. They will need to build out a tree to establish a connection. If they concentrate on some of these couples they may become frustrated because some are just in-laws.

I have no new Circles with the change. Both my Mom and I belong in other Circles based on DNA and our Family Trees because a cousin has those Circles, and we actually match several people in the cousin's Circles. My cousins who had no Circles now have a few. I'm not sure if they are blood relatives of theirs or just in-laws?

The new addition to the Circles is called "Ancestor Discoveries." Should be called relative discoveries, since none of our new couple matches are actually ancestors, as far as I know? Three of my Mom's discoveries are in-laws, and one would be a many times great-aunt.

Ancestry discoveries are also provided to those with private trees.

I don't see a confidence level for the DNA only matches?

Now that I've broken down part of my Owens brickwall I do know that DNA was leading me to the correct branch of my Owens line. Our family was perfectly matching the correct branch on the Y test. The autosomal tests confirmed we have no breaks in our Owens line for we female descendants.

I'll check the Campbell lines shared by my Mom's matches. Not sure if that will go anywhere?

No easy way out with DNA. You still need a BIG tree!

Posted by Annette at 1:00 PM 2 comments: 

Friday, March 27, 2015

# Breaking My Owens Brickwall Down After 11 Years

Owen Group 20																																			
MIN	13	24	14	10	11-14	12	12	12	13	13	30	17	9-10	11	11	25	15	20	28	15-15-16-17	11	11	19-22	15	15	19	16	36-38	13	12	12	9	15		
MAX	13	24	14	11	11-14	12	12	12	13	13	30	17	9-10	11	11	25	15	20	28	15-15-16-17	11	11	19-22	15	15	20	16	36-38	13	12	12	9	15		
MODE	13	24	14	11	11-14	12	12	12	13	13	30	17	9-10	11	11	25	15	20	28	15-15-16-17	11	11	19-22	15	15	20	16	36-38	13	12	12	9	15		
Willis Owens Indiana David?	13	24	14	10	11-14	12	12	12	13	13	30	17	9-10	11	11	25	15	20	28	15-15-16-17	11	11	19-22	15	15	20	16	36-38	13	12					
Willis Owens Indiana David?	13	24	14	10	11-14	12	12	12	13	13	30	17	9-10	11	11	25	15	20	28	15-15-16-17	11	11	19-22	15	15	20	16	36-38	13	12					
John T. Owens WV John?	13	24	14	11	11-14	12	12	12	13	13	30	17	9-10	11	11	25	15	20	28	15-15-16-17				11	11	19-22	15	15	20	16	36-38	13	12	9	15
James D Owens KY John II	13	24	14	11	11-14	12	12	12	13	13	30	17	9-10	11	11	25	15	20	28	15-15-16-17															
John T. Owens WV John?	13	24	14	11	11-14	12	12	12	13	13	30	17	9-10	11	11	25	15	20	28	15-15-16-17	11	11	19-22	15	15	19	16	36-38	13	12					

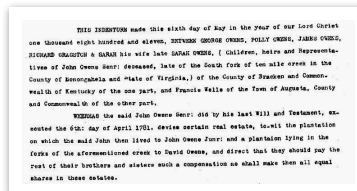
That seemingly intractable brickwall on my Owens line finally came down this week. Many thanks have to go to the **Cornerstone Genealogy Society in Greene County, PA**. The researcher there, Thelma Yeager, provided me with more information than I requested. She followed up on the clues she found as she was doing the research for me and sent additional documents. I really appreciate her expert researching skills!

My research goal has been to determine which of two James Owens of Bracken County, KY was the son of John Owens II and Susannah of Washington County, PA (a.k.a Monongalia County, VA). One of these men was only referred to as James Owens or James Owens Sr.; and the other was referred to as James D. Owens and James Owens Jr., at various times. More on that later.

I have finally identified the ancestral lines for all the Owens DNA participants. We have two who believe they descend from David Owens son of John Owens I, and one who claims to be descended from George Owens, another son of John I. We have two from the Tyler County WV Owens line, who believe they descend from John II's son John III. There seems to be a branch marker for the supposed descendants of David Owens. That would be would be the 10 in the chart above. We appear to have a branch marker for the supposed descendants of David which is the purple 10 in the chart above. George's descendant also mismatches the others on a single marker. John of Tyler West Virginia also has a unique mismatch. Since his cousin only tested 25 markers we're not sure if this was a mutation unique to John of Tyler's family? My line matches John of Tyler the best so far, with no

mismatches at 25 markers. I would like to upgrade and see if our line continues to match perfectly at 37 markers.

I had also requested a couple deeds from Clark County, Indiana for James Owens and Sally Broshears, which I received before the documents from Greene County, PA. The deeds confirmed what another Owens family researcher had found regarding the fact that James and Sally were said to be from Bracken County, KY, and the fact they sold their land in Clark County, now Indiana in 1803. Actually James purchased that property previous to their marriage in 1802. I also received a deed confirming he did witness a deed in 1800, proving he was there at that time. All of this points to James Owens married to Sally Broshears being a descendant of David Owens instead of John Owens and Susannah as was believed. This James witnessed a deed for his likely brother John Owens in Clark County in 1800, and was married a day after his likely brother David in the same church, White Oak Presbyterian in Bracken County, KY. James and David lived in different states for many years, but reunited in about 1824 when they both lived in Washington County, IN.



The Clark County area is closely associated with Capt. George Owens and David Owens who were some of the earliest settlers of that area.

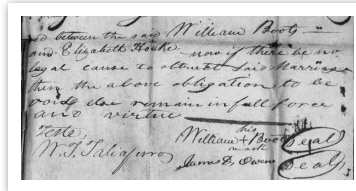
I'm not very patient so while I was waiting for my request for copies of the Deeds Index, and the 1806 Court Case, from the "Cornerstone Genealogy Society" I kept researching and exchanging information at our "[We're Descendants of John Owens the Indian Trader](#)" group at Facebook. A group member was looking at old posts and noticed a pdf was posted which mentioned a deed for the heirs of John Owens. I took a look and saw the book number and page number. I believe that was on a Sunday night. I couldn't phone to ask about getting a copy so I Googled the County [Clerk's office for Greene County](#), and found out you can obtain deed copies online for a fee. This site is impossible to use without specific information, but is usable if you have the book number and page. I was thrilled when I saw a transcript of the indenture which actually wasn't technically a deed. It was a transfer of interest in the estate of John Owens and a power of attorney for Francis Wells. It did involve the property inherited by John Owens III, on Tenmile Creek, PA. Unfortunately it didn't answer the question regarding which James Owens was John II's son. It just said James Owens, no other identifying info. I could not access the second page which would have been 571? This page didn't contain a continuation of the heirs indenture as it should have. I needed to locate that page ( I later found out page 571 is 570a in their system). I had no idea at that point what great information this page contained.

On Tuesday the awaited for envelope from the "[Cornerstone Genealogy Society](#)" arrived. Not only did it contain an index of Owens deeds it also contained the actual deeds. Plus additional documents regarding the estate of John Owens. There was so much it took me time to sort through it all. I just happened to quickly glance through the pages and discovered pages 1 and 2 of the document I found at the County Clerk's website were included. During this quick look I failed to notice an important bit of information. I was exchanging some of this information with the Facebook Owens group when I finally noticed page two included a reference to the signature of James Owens. He signed it James D. Owens, which caused me to gasp and nearly faint. After 11 years I finally had documentary evidence that James D. Owens was the son of John Owens and Susannah, and not James Owens husband of Sally Borshears, as was thought by some other researchers. I don't have the original clerks copy of the indenture but hope to get that. I've written to Greene County for a copy. I just have a transcript. Hopefully book 2 page 571 is still available for copying?

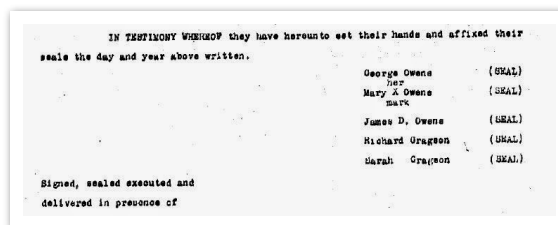
An 1806 Court Case involving John and Susannah's estate was not found. It's possible they intended to sue in 1806 but something prevented it from happening at that time; or it was filed in a unknown location?

I have to say I didn't expect James to sign with the middle initial D. I should have because he signed his mother-in-law's marriage bond with a middle initial.

Lucky James Owens Jr. started referring to himself as James D. Owens around 1810. Maybe he felt Junior was too juvenile for him? Also, he wasn't a Junior, that was apparently how they separated two James cousins in the local records. It's odd that this technique was not often used for others of the same name. Although at about the same time George, son of David, began to be referred to as George C. Owens. Maybe a new clerk suggested the addition of middle initials? I'm wondering if the D refers to James' mother's surname?



I certainly lucked out because James used the D when he signed the heirs release. I believe a mistake I made with this line was concentrating so much of my research in Bracken County, Kentucky where he lived during his adult life. I didn't expect to find the information I was looking for in

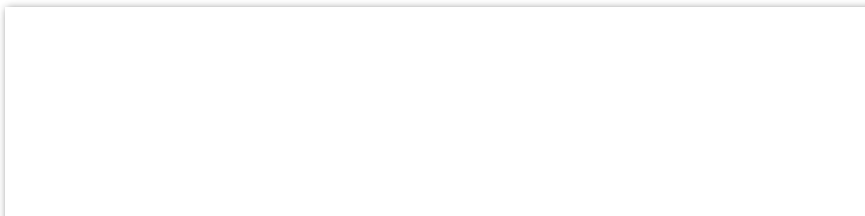


1811 Greene County, PA. The take away is branch out as much as possible. You never know where you'll find the solution to your problem. Could be in an expected place.

I still need to sort through the information I received and analyze it. I plan on continuing my research on the line. Still many unknowns. When did John I die, what were his wives exact names, and when did they die? Still need to prove some of his children and grandchildren's lines.

When I began researching this family in 2004 I found James Owens husband of Sally Borshears named as John and Susannah's son, exclusively. No trees suggesting James D. Owens of the same place was their son. When I noticed James D. and Fanny had a son named David V. I thought it was possible he might be their son instead. I believed this because they had a son named David V.. I believed Vincent might be this sons middle name. John II and Susannah had a son named David and a son Vincent. After a cousin matched a descendant in John I's line it supported my hypothesis that my James could also have been their son. Without the DNA match I probably wouldn't have invested as much time in researching this family. The DNA is confirming our relationship plus it provided me the incentive to continue. We have more people in this line testing and hopefully we will find branch tags to separate the families. We are also doing autosomal testing to find out if some of John Owens I's children were part Native American, and to see if any of the distant cousins still share DNA. So far no one in John Owens I's line is showing Native American admixture in any appreciable amount.

One Wall gone several more to go.





chattel, right, & credit, Henry Owens dec. he granted to himself that  
 wife of his, entering into bond with Martin Marshall as security  
 in the penalty of Five thousand dollars, conditioned as the said  
 directs, paid bond and took the oath required, a certificate  
 granted to obtain letters in due form

Ordered that Administration of all and singular the goods &  
 chattels, rights, and credits, of James D. Owens dec. be granted Henry  
 Owens (wife of the said dec.) upon her entering into bond with  
 Appella Bond as security in the penalty of Five hundred dollars con-  
 ditioned as the said directs, paid bond and took the oath required,  
 a certificate granted to obtain letters in due form

Ordered that William Orr, John McMillen and Benjamin Long  
 be his appointed appraisers of the estate of James D. Owens dec. and

A little tough to read but proof that James D. Owens was the husband of Fanny (Francis Watkins.).

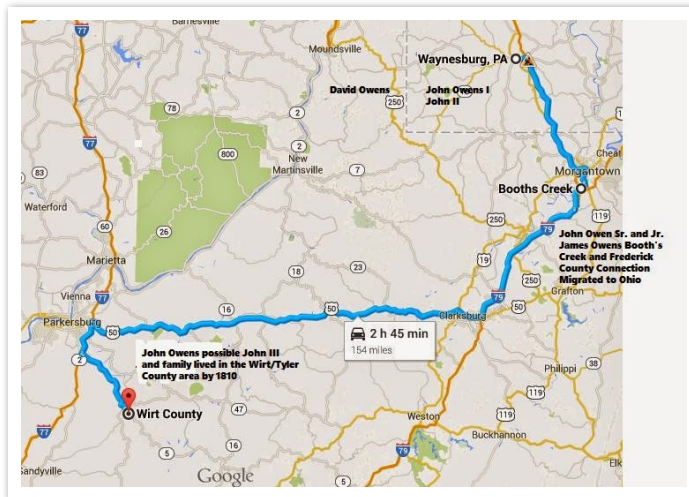
This Deed bears date this twentieth day of  
 November 1800 and is between James  
 Owens and Sally his wife of the County of Boone and State  
 of Kentucky the one part and William G. Clerk of  
 said County and James and Son of the other part  
 Witnesseth that the said James and Sally for and in  
 consideration of the sum of One Hundred dollars to them in  
 hand paid by the receipt whereof an Acknowledgment

Deed for James Owens and Sally Broshears from Clark County, IN

Posted by Annette at 10:17 PM 1 comment: 

Monday, March 16, 2015

## Y We Need Proven Y Trees



"Once upon a time in a land far away lived a beautiful Indian Princess who married an Indian Trader..." A great story to have in your family history. An Owens family does have a similar story in their family, and it is true to a degree. An Indian Trader, John Owens, may have married a daughter of a Native American Chief. This story has been widely told in Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia. The appeal of this story, as you would guess, has led to many false connections being established with this family.

An Owens Y DNA project was started a number of years ago. The goal of the participants from our Owens line has been to prove our connection to John Owens I the Indian Trader. What I found out over the weekend is that a person claiming direct descent from the Indian



Trader, who tested with the project, has a weak claim to a line of direct descent. I didn't know who the person claiming direct descent was until a few weeks ago. For years I've been pondering that. I didn't feel confident comparing with this person because I didn't know what line they descended from. I would love to see lines of descent, i.e., trees attached to results at the Owens project. Without seeing a tree we can't be sure whether the line of descent is correct.

Someone in our Owens group found some great information about the Owens family of Booth's Creek, now West Virginia. According to the person who tested with the Owens Y project his family's claim to direct descent came from John I, or II?, owning land on Booth's Creek, where contemporary sources say he was killed by Indians somewhere between 1778 and 1783. This person's family lived not far from the Booth's Creek area so a relationship was assumed.

This premise that either of the John Owens owned land on Booth's Creek, West Virginia seemed to crumble over the weekend. I was finally able to find some information coming from an Owens deed for Booth Creek. I was led to a site with [Harrison County Court record abstracts](#) through information provided by an Owens group member. This information regarded a John Owens of Harrison County (where Booth's Creek is located) and land located in Frederick County, Virginia. According to court minutes, for Harrison County, a John Owens was the rightful heir to land located in Frederick County. This was confirmed by a Janet Owens. All of this was new to me. This appeared to be an Owens family which wasn't closely related to our own. When I did a google search on some of this info a [WikiTree surfaced](#) with some research notes attached, with sources. I found a deed abstract attached to the tree. This abstract answered many questions I asked in my last blog post i.e. who owned the land on Booth's Creek, and who the second John Owens was. He was John Owens married to a Mary. So now we have a John Owens married to Mary, and a John Owens married to Sarah, living in the area at around the same time. John married to Sarah seems to show up in West Virginia after 1801. I have not found him being taxed there before that year. Beginning in 1801 John married to Mary begins selling their land off, they leave the area around 1805.

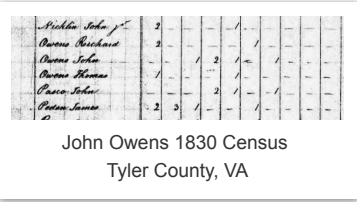
The family tree posted at Wiki Tree for this John Owens family on Booth's Creek states there was a John Owens father and son living on Booth's Creek next to James Owens, brother of the elder John. This would match what I was seeing in the records for the area. We find a John Owens Sr. and Jr. signing a petition for the establishment of a new county in 1778, and we also find a 1782 land warrant for a John Owens Junior claiming land as an heir to John Owens deceased. This was thought to be our John Owens III. Since John Owens III was only around 12 years old at the time I felt this was unlikely. I did think it possible that someone applied for him. It doesn't look like that. It looks like John Owens of Booth's Creek was transacting his own business, and receiving title to his land claims from 1784 onward according to land records for Booth's Creek.

Right now, which can change, we have John Owens of Booth's Creek as likely the son of John Owens and Ann Horn. Both John and Ann owned property in Frederick, Virginia which appears to have been inherited by the family in Harrison County. Where this line is beginning to take a wrong turn is that they are also claiming a relationship to the Indian Trader. There is absolutely no evidence they are related to the Indian Trader. According Wiki Tree James Owens was also involved in the Indian Trade but there is no evidence of this. The two Johns and James of Booth's Creek appear to be farmers. It seems both John Owens II of Tenmile Creek and John Sr. of Booth's Creek died at around the same time and their deaths are associated with violence. John II of Tenmile Creek was said to have been shot by Indians a mile from Waynesburg, PA, and John Owens Sr. of Booth's Creek, VA was said to have been hatched to death by Indians. This has added to the confusion about the identity of the men.

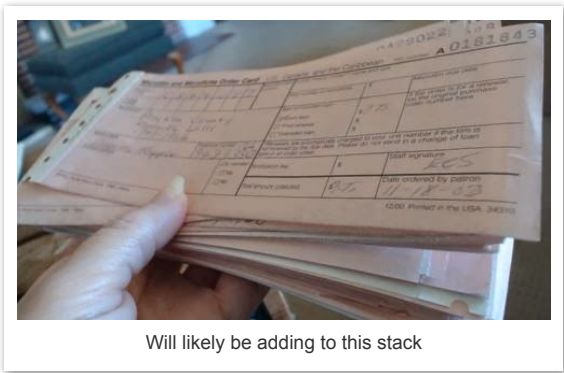
Taking a close look at the Tyler County John Owens family in Census records I can see

where it is very possible that John Owens III is the same man. He would be the right age to be John Owens III. He is associated with the Ankrom family known to be acquainted with John I and II. There could have been a migration of Waynesburg PA residents to Wirt, Tyler county? What I'm not seeing is a naming pattern matching the PA Owens family. I've also seen a Joseph Owens born 1755 in Marion County as forebearer of this family. Another research states that a James Richard Owens killed in Clarksburg is the founder of this line. Everyone copied the Booth's Creek association which I can't find any documentation for.

I was subscribing to some of these theories based on John I or II owning land on Booth's Creek. It doesn't appear either of them owned this land. I had been thinking one of these men owned that land, or it was another unrelated man of the same name. It looks like an unrelated family at this time. WORK, needs to be done on this line to establish John Owens of Tyler County's exact relationship to the family of John I. Hopefully the relationship stated at the Y DNA group can be proven, and all will be well again? Even better than before because we'll have actual proof of this person's line of descent, and the DNA project will have increased credibility.



John Owens 1830 Census  
Tyler County, VA

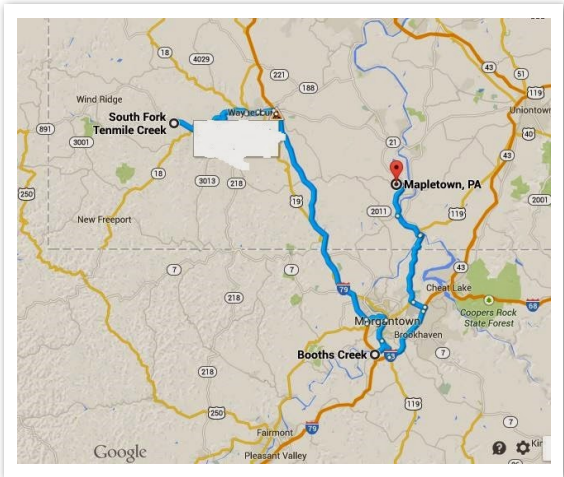


Will likely be adding to this stack

Posted by **Annette** at **3:35 PM**    **2 comments:**    

Friday, March 13, 2015

# Resolving Conflicting Evidence Owens Line



I'm trying to resolve conflicting evidence without land records; which are essential to clearing them up.

I guess my primary problem with the Owens lines in West Virginia and Pennsylvania is the fact common male first names are used and there is no way to differentiate between these men. Hopefully, the Owens filed deeds so we can identify the locations where each man lived. That combined with the names of their wives would resolve many problems. It may be tricky to find the deeds? They may have been filed long after the fact, and county lines have changed so many times over the years.

Right now we have random Owens males appearing on tax lists and purchasing land from government agencies. These land records don't name wives so it's impossible connect them with a particular family.

From the scant information, we have now, we know Owens males, and Judith Owens, lived in South West Pennsylvania and what is now West Virginia. If we are to believe the accounts of John Owens II's death he died on Booth's Creek, Virginia. This land is about 30 miles from his land on the South Fork of Tenmile Creek, PA. That seems a little odd? In his will John Owens II gives "the land I now labor on" to John Owens III. He doesn't say where the land he now labors on was located? We've inferred it's the Booth's Creek land. We see a John Owens Jr. is presented with a land warrant in 1782. He would have been maybe 12 yrs. old at most? According to John II his son was supposed to inherit the land when he turned 21 years old. He was not yet 21 in 1790.

Another bit of evidence which throws a monkey wrench into the theory John II owned land on Booth's Creek is that a John Owens Sr. and John Owens Jr. sign a petition for the formation of a new county from the existing Monongalia county. They signed this **petition in 1777**. We had thought the Owens widow in Bedford County, PA was Judith wife of John I. That tax list was for the year 1773. Maybe that wasn't her? If so he could have signed the 1777 petition and owned the land on Booth's Creek. In that case the John Jr. and Sr. are Johns I and II. If not who are the John Sr. and Jr. listed on the 1777 petition for Monongalia? Could be John son of James and John II on the Petition? Or another John Sr. and Jr. altogether?

There is a suggestion that John I may have lived passed 1773 in John II's estate records. A debt owed by both John I and II to George Church is paid off by the estate in 1782.

So did John Owens II own land on Booth's Creek? In his estate records we find references to a Lower Planation. Is that the one in West Virginia? Some say "Maths" (another wife of John I) died in Harrison County, Virginia? So did John Owens I actually own land on Booth's Creek and not John II? I think that James Owens who also lived on Booth's Creek might be John I's son? Was it actually John I or John II who was killed on Booth's Creek and owned land there? William Powers 1833 Revolutionary War Pension file implies John was killed in 1781. Other accounts have the killing of John Owens as 1778 or 1783? John Owen II did in fact die in the spring of 1781. There are no details given about his death in Estate records.

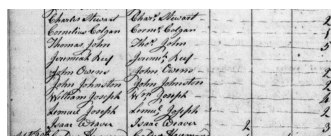
Another question is which John Owens is found in the West Virginia records for Harrison and Monongalia Counties in the late 18th and early 19th century? Could be John son of James or

Debt of John Owens Sr. and Jr.

John III son of John II? Which John is in Mapletown, Pennsylvania in 1798?

The problem that I'm basically seeing it there is only one John Owens on tax lists in West Virginia. He appears to be older than the son of John Owens II, because he appears on a Tax list in Monongalia County, Virginia in 1790 when John II would have been under 21. In 1801 we see a John Owens with 2 tithables in his household, meaning 2 males over 21, in the 1801 Tax list for Harrison County, VA. In 1789 a John Owens signs a marriage bond in Harrison County, Virginia. Too old to be John Owens II's son.

We also have evidence supporting the fact John Owens III may have settled in Virginia. There is a relationship between the Ankrom family and John Owens II. John Ankrom is mentioned in his estate records. He owed him a debt. The Ankrom family married into the West Virginia John Owens family. John Owens and wife Sarah appear to have a young family, with **children born between 1796 and 1816**, in the latter half of the 18th and early 19th Century. This would fit the age range of John Owens II. Also it was common for settlers of Tenmile Creek, PA to also own land in West Virginia.



John Owens 1790 Taxlist Monongalia County  
Below 1801 Tax List John Owens



What we can say for certain is that the West Virginia John Owens family did match, on the Y DNA test, the descendants of John Owens I Indian Trader. Relationships are still up in the air until land records are consulted. We will only continue to go in circles without looking at the land records.

Posted by **Annette** at **4:43 PM**


No comments:




Tuesday, March 10, 2015

## AncestryDNA Useless? The Thrill of the Y & Breaking More Pieces Off A Brickwall

**HeritageQuest Online**  
Select a Collection below to begin your search.

**Search Census**  
  
Find your ancestors in the complete set of U.S. Federal Census population schedules (1790-1940), U.S. Slave Schedules, selected Non-Population Schedules and more!  
[Search Now](#)

**Search Books and Directories**  
  
Locate your ancestors in our Family and Local Histories and City Directories.  
[Search Now](#)

**New Look and Newly expanded databases at HeritageQuest**

AncestryDNA has created a product which is time consuming and provides no useful tools to compare results with matches. It's aggravatingly difficult to get useful data from their product. It came home to me again yesterday because a first cousin's results came in and I couldn't see any data related to our match, or see anyone we shared in common. I've always







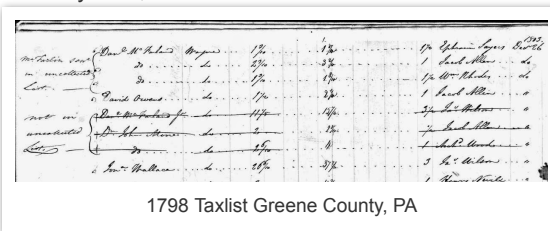
church, and the fact they lived in the same location in 1830.

As usual there appears to be more than one James settling in Clarksville during the first half of the 19th Century. One was married to Sarah the other to Mary. The early deeds for Clarksville are apparently in very bad condition. When I called today to ask about getting copies I was told they don't charge for copies because the deeds are so hard to read. This has led to difficulty deciphering the names. There may be a John and Jane witnessing some early deeds? Or is it John and James? That is the question. Could be John and Jane husband and wife or brother and sister? Or could be brothers? I'm ordering a copy of the deeds to see if I can make out the names? If there is a John and Jane that could throw a monkey wrench into my theory because this would suggest a possible additional John Owens in the area, besides the one married to a Sarah. If we have two Johns one may be the son of John II? That would mean some of John II's children joined their cousins not only in Bracken County, KY but also in Clarksville. I theorized that John II's son, John III, remained in the Pennsylvania/Virginia area because he inherited land from his father. Of course I can't be certain of that because there were two John Owens in the original ancestral area who were probably first cousins. One of these John's remained in the original ancestral area and the other was no longer around for the 1810 Census. If John II's son migrated to Clarksville then James married to Sarah is likely the son of John II. More deed research will clear this up.

This 1803 deed does appear to suggest the second James Owens appearing on taxlists beginning in 1804 came from Clarksville. He appears on the 1803 deed selling his land which he had purchased in July 1802 before his marriage to Sarah. I'm not sure where Sarah Broshears and James met? They both had cousins in Clarksville and Bracken County, KY.

**HeritageQuest** now looks like a clone of Ancestry.com; their

current owner. On March 4th the new look was unveiled. The expanded collections are wonderful. One of the books I found led to a record source I hadn't seen before. This leads back to the strange search results at Ancestry. You would think Ancestry's search



would bring up results from all of their collections but it doesn't? After all this time searching for Owens in early Pennsylvania records the 1798 taxlist for Pennsylvania never came up? When I discovered the existence of this taxlist I searched for a copy online and found Ancestry had it. I found a John and David living in the ancestral area of Greene County, PA. They seem to match what I would expect of John II's children; they owned land and rented some of the properties out. Since there were other Owens families around it's hard to be sure without a description of the property location. As I stated above deeds are key to identifying who remained in the ancestral area and who migrated?

So one of my current goals is to nail down exactly who the early Owens settlers of Clarksville were? Were they only the children of Capt. George Owens and David Owens? Or did some of John II's children head to Clarksville when they came of age to join their Uncle David Owens and cousins? Success with this line of research would either eliminate James married to Sarah as a children of John II and Susannah or confirm that he is their son.

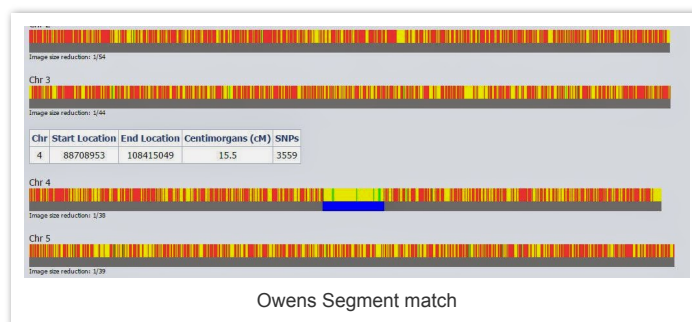
Posted by **Annette** at **11:09 PM**

**3 comments:**



Tuesday, March 3, 2015

## Removing A DNA Kit From Purgatory Plus Throwing Everything At A Brickwall



One of my DNA kits got stuck in that new purgatory at AncestryDNA. For non Catholics that's a place between heaven and hell. Any new DNA customers who purchased and activated a kit in a new account (after October 1, 2014) can't see any part of their matches' trees or any of their surname information unless they have a paid account. My cousin's account was stuck in this situation because I made a new account for him and activated the kit there.

AncestryDNA is useless without the trees and surname information; unless, you want to contact every match on your match list and ask for their surname information. I was told if I made myself administrator of his account my status as a paying customer with an old DNA account may jog his into displaying the needed information. It didn't work. **What did work was inviting him to view MY results.** After I did that all of the information previously restricted was now visible. That seems to be a way of removing a kit from that useless purgatory.

A couple weeks ago an Owens distant cousin, who tested at Ancestry, agreed to compare segment information at GEDmatch. Very generous of them because so many matches at Ancestry either don't want to compare there or don't know how. This person shares a 15.5 cM segment with a 3rd cousin on the Owens side (they actually don't match anymore at Ancestry which is a whole other story). This experience demonstrates the many benefits of DNA testing because my 3rd cousin's match has done so much research on our shared line, or I should say a relative of his has. The fact that he matched, and we compared, started a collaboration leading to more discoveries. Most people at Ancestry, and elsewhere on the internet, copy information posted by other people. They don't use primary source documentation to assemble their tree. This has led to the ugly situation we see when we look at Ancestry family trees. Our Owens distant cousin has used primary sources acquired through original document research, and onsite research to assemble his tree. He's discovered information I didn't have until now. I discovered this same person, who matched my 3rd cousin at Ancestry, also matched our family on the Y DNA test at FTDNA.

My Owens research journey began with the 1900 Census, when I was looking for my grandmother Dorothy Mason Kapple's father Fred. I thought I'd find him in Chicago, Illinois where my grandmother was born. Instead I found him with his family in Mattoon, Illinois. I had never heard of that place before in my life (I live in Southern California). Once I found my Great-Grandfather Fred Mason's parents I was able to find a posted tree stating that my Great-Grandfather Peter Mason's wife was Mary E. Owens. Some of her siblings were living with the family in 1880. Using their names I was able to trace Mary's family back to William F. Owens, who I found with his daughters on the 1870 Census. Going back even further, using the census and marriage information, I was able trace the family back to Clermont, Ohio. I gained more information about the Owens family from another tree I found posted for Mary E. Owens mother's family (the Hicks family of Clermont, Ohio). This

researcher stated that William F. Owens' mother was Francis Owens of Bracken County, Kentucky, which is just across the Ohio river from Clermont, Ohio. A clue that this was probably his mother is the fact that one of his daughters was named Francis, spelled the same way. This was my introduction to the world of naming patterns.

My Great-Great-Great Grandparents William F. Owens and Nancy Hicks were married in Clermont Ohio in 1849. This meant I needed to use something besides the census to trace William's family any farther back. I did look at the censuses before 1850 (which only list heads of household) to see how many Owens' families lived in Bracken county. There were several. Francis Owens was widowed in the 1820's, and because of that was named on every census from 1830 until her death. Through the census I did confirm there was a female Francis Owens who lived in Bracken County, KY at the right time, and of the right age to be William's mother. Knowing all this I searched for a will or probate naming the deceased father and husband. I found a probate record for a James D. Owens naming Francis as his wife. He died in 1824 which was only a few years after William's birth. He didn't leave a will naming his children, and the probate records didn't name them either. I found census records previous to his death and he did have boys, in his household, in the age range of William F. Plus William's eldest son was named James. Also a William Owens was listed as son of James on one tax list when William F. was an adult still living with his likely mother Francis. According to census records for William F. he was born in Kentucky.

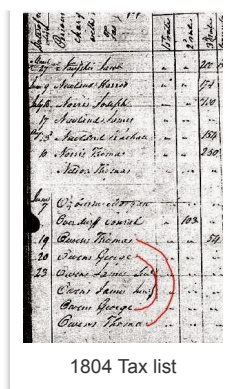
I couldn't find a marriage record for a James to a Francis in Bracken County, KY. Only after the Kentucky marriage records were digitized did a permission slip surface for Francis Watkins and James D. Owens in Bracken County, KY. We can infer from this slip that Francis was not yet 18 when she married James D. Owens in 1805. I received a copy of family bible pages which confirmed this fact (the bible had no additional Owens info). She was 15 at the time of her marriage. I ordered tax list microfilms for Bracken County, KY at my local LDS, FHC. Other than a few gaps in the early records they were quite complete. James D. Owens' first confirmed listing on the tax lists was in 1804, confirming that he was over 21 in that year. So in 1805 he didn't need a permission slip to marry (only males under 21 needed such a permission).

Using the Tax lists and census information I tried to establish a connection between my Owens family and the others in the same county, and surrounding counties. In 1850 some of Francis Owens' children were still living with her. I again turned to naming patterns to try to link up with local families. The children still living with her were David V. and Hannah. I found a David Owens on 1797 and 1801 tax lists for Bracken County, KY, but no Williams on early tax lists. I looked for a tree for a David Owens of Bracken County, KY and found one which stated he was from Washington County, PA. This led me to a book called "[The Ten Mile Country](#)". This book gave an in depth biography for this Owens family. They descended from an Indian Trader named John Owens, we call John I. The author also stated several members of John Owens II (son of I) and wife Susannah's family migrated to Bracken County, Kentucky after their deaths. James' likely daughter Hannah lived into the early 1900's, and stated her father was born in Pennsylvania, according to the census.

Armed with the names of John and Susannah's children I was able to go back to the tax lists and census information and attempt to sort out the Owens families in Bracken County. The children's names listed in the Washington County, PA probate records were David, John, George, Vincent, James, and Mary. Another daughter, Sarah Gragston, was said to have shared in the estate, but I have not located that document myself? Looking at the names I wondered whether James D. Owen's son David V. was David Vincent? The V may also have represented Francis' maiden name. I later discovered that her maiden name was Watkins, so I can rule that out.

The tax information seemed to confirm what was found in "[The Ten Mile Country](#)" book. There were indeed males by the names of David,

George, and James on late 18th, and early 19th century tax lists, and the 1810 census for Bracken County, KY. David being the first to show up in 1797 disappears, and reappears in 1801. In 1799 we see a James and George for the first time. By 1804 we have 2 Jameses, 2 Georges, and 2 Thomases. I had no idea how the Thomases fit in? As time passed more unrelated Owens families show up in Bracken County, KY. Most had completely different naming patterns.



1804 Tax list

With two James Owens living in Bracken County, KY around the same time I needed to determine which one descended from John Owens and Susannah? I was able to determine they were both roughly the same age. To set them apart the county record keepers sometimes referred to one of the men as Senior and the other Junior. Using a land record, collected by a distant cousin, I was able to establish my James was referred to as Junior. Fanny was named on this deed. If the two Jameses were listed with their wives I could distinguish them, aside from the Jr. and Sr.. Later record keepers began using a the middle initial D., for my ancestor, to distinguish them apart. Another way I can tell them apart on the land records is when the creek and river names are used. James D. Owens Jr.. lived on the Ohio river, and James Owens Sr. lived on Turtle Creek.

Looking for trees for these men I quickly discovered someone had claimed James Owens Sr. married to Sally Broshears was John and Susannah's son. I could find no actual documentation for this. I could definitely see a likelihood this could be correct. The fact that James D. seems to turn up in 1804, based on the tax lists, would suggest he is from a different family. What led me to believe this is James Sr. marries in Bracken County, KY in 1803. Ergo he must be the James listed with brothers David and George in 1801. Plus David and James Sr. marry a day apart in May 1803. James Sr. and Sally Broshears initially appeared to be 1st cousins. Many researchers listed her mother, Hannah, as John Owens I's daughter. Later I found out there was a power of attorney, filed by Hannah (Owens) Broshears' husband Thomas, giving a James Owens the right to sue the estate of the late John Owens II of Washington County, PA on behalf of his wife. This would suggest Hannah is a daughter of James Owens II, since only his children were entitled to anything from his estate. John and Susannah's daughter Mary, who was listed as minor in 1790, joined this 1806 suit. This changed my opinion about who the son of James and Susannah might be. He could actually be my James D.?

If Sarah (Broshears) Owens was the biological daughter of Hannah, James would be her Uncle. I needed to establish whether Sarah was Hannah's biological daughter. Sarah is a bit older than Hannah's other children so she may be from another marriage of Thomas Broshears. Unfortunately Pennsylvania didn't keep early marriage records and no record of any marriage for Hannah and Thomas exists, nor a marriage between Thomas and anyone else. It's difficult to establish Hannah's birth year but she appears to have been born in the 1760's, based on available censuses dating to the year 1820. It appears her daughter, or stepdaughter, was born around the mid 1780's based on census data to 1830. It also appears that Hannah was married before 1790 since she wasn't listed as a minor child in 1790. Hannah's last child was born in 1807; narrowing her age range a little more. So Sarah could be her daughter, but I can find no conclusive evidence to prove this.

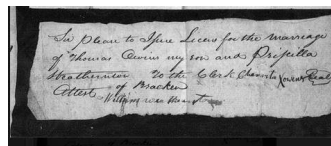
This all leads to the question if Sarah Broshears was a step-niece, to James Sr., would such a marriage have been legal in 1803? In some cases, at certain points in time, such marriages were illegal even if there was no blood relationship. This is called an affinal relationship. I could find no law against such a marriage in Kentucky at this time.

Looking at records in which Thomas Broshears names his son-in-law, James Owens Sr., he states he is his son-in-law. The power of attorney, for the suit against the John Owens II estate, doesn't state this James Owens was his son-in-law. We know my James D. Owens

was acquainted with the Broshears family because Thomas purchased something from James D.'s estate sale. In 1805 Thomas and Hannah enter into an indenture with James Owens Jr. which provides even more support for a relationship between them. The power of attorney Mary provides states James is a "trusty friend". My first impression when I saw this was he couldn't be her brother. I discovered that "trusty friend" could be a brother. This term just means I appoint this person as my representative.

After completing much of the research above, many years later, in 2012 I discovered a distant cousin of mine matched several descendants of John Owens I, the Indian Trader. This doesn't mean I'm guaranteed to be directly descended from him, but does confirm our family is related. Since the surname Owens is so common Y DNA testing is necessary to separate unrelated families.

Coming back to our recent Ancestry DNA match looking at this family's research I noticed they placed David Owens, who married the day before James Owens Sr. and Sarah Broshears, as the son of David, grandson of John I. I had him placed as son of John Owens II and Susannah.. The former makes sense because we have a David Owens, of Indiana, giving testimony in the 1840's regarding another of John Owens I's sons Capt. George Owens. In his testimony David Jr. stated that he was the son of David, and Capt. George was his half Uncle. David had migrated with his wife Polly Miranda to Indiana from Bracken County, KY.



Charity signs son's permission

Capt. George Owens had first settled in the Jeffersonville/Clarksville area in 1780, as a Captain of the Militia guarding the area. His brother David joins him in the Spring of 1782. I learned that Capt. George had sons named George and Thomas who were the additional men, by those names, found in marriage records, and tax lists in Bracken County, KY. This has been confirmed using marriage records and David's testimony. David stated Capt. George's wife was named Charity, in his testimony. We find a Charity Owens on a Mason, Kentucky tax list in 1792, plus mentioned in Mason County, KY marriage records. In neighboring Bracken County, KY we find her giving her son Thomas permission to marry in 1801. This provides identification for one of the Thomases found in early Bracken county, KY records. Capt. George Owens was burned at the stake in 1789 and the family relocated to the Bracken County, KY area. A Davy Owens appears on a tax list for Mason County, KY in 1790. This may be Capt. George's brother David? He may have joined Charity Owens in Bracken County, KY, but aged out of the tax lists or received some sort of exemption?

We also find James II's daughter Sarah marrying Richard Gragston in 1791 Mason County, KY. This seems to confirm her as John II and Susannah's daughter, because an Isaac Gray was the surety for the marriage bond. A David Gray was appointed guardian for her brother John in Orphans court records.

Now we have several branches of John Owens I's family in the Mason and Bracken County, KY area at the same time. Both John III and his brother David Owens, sons of John II, inherited land from their father in Pennsylvania and Virginia, so likely never migrated anywhere. The remaining children of John II and Susannah, inheriting no land, migrated to Kentucky.

Can we tell who belongs to which branch of the family, and when they arrived in the area based on tax lists? As can be seen with early tax records in Bracken County, KY men seem to slip on and off the lists from year to year. They may be exempt due to military service, age, and financial circumstances. Men who look young can claim to be under 21, and avoid taxes for several years. With regards to the Owens family we know they tended to bounce around because of military service. The tax records are helpful, but these men could appear and disappear from the lists and still be in the area. We can't draw too many conclusions based

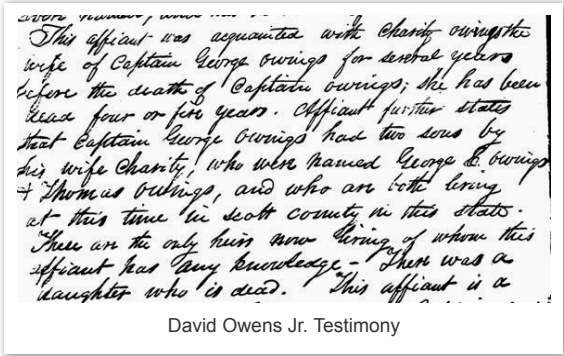


on the lists. We can be reasonably certain that men on the lists are over 21, however, because no one wants to pay taxes unless they are required to. I found a Forgey relation on a delinquent tax list. So if you can't find them on a tax list they may be on a delinquent tax list.

After James Owens Sr.'s mother-in-law, Hannah (Owens) Broshears, dies he and wife Sarah (Broshears) Owens join David and Polly (Miranda) Owens in Washington County, IN, in the mid 1820's. Does this suggest this is his brother? Or is this his cousin? The fact that James Sr. could be an Uncle or Step-Uncle of Sarah, and he is very close to David, son of David, suggests to me that James Sr. may actually also be a son of the same David?

More research will be needed to confirm my James D. Owens was the son of John II and Susannah beyond a doubt. I need to see the 1806 court case in Pennsylvania. A case no one has located yet. Court and land records need to be consulted in Pennsylvania in hopes of accurately identifying which James is the son of John II and Susannah Owens. We will continue looking at DNA results in hopes of further supporting my family's relationship to John Owens I the Indian trader.

If you don't have time to read the long story above here is a short synopsis I made using Treelines: <https://www.treelines.com/story/12083-the-owens-family-always-on-the-move/>



31	Julia A.	5 f							
32	William	3 f							
33	William	5 m							
34	882 883 George B. Owens	81 m	Farmer	600	125	Hentons			1
35	884 885 James M. Bruce	73 f				Pennsylvania			
36	886 887 James M. Bruce	28 m	Carpenter	800	125	Holland			
37	Ellen	20 f							
38	Charlotte	4 f				Ind			1
39	Jane	2 f							

George Owens son of Capt. George Owens still alive in 1850

Posted by Annette at 7:41 PM No comments:

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#) [My Pedigree Charts](#) [Research Goals](#)

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

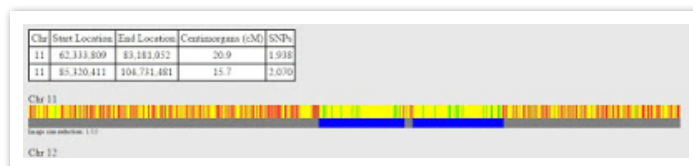
## Do We Need To Be Scientists To Use Our DNA Results?

No, I don't think we do need to be scientists to work with our segment data. We don't have access to actual data to scientifically analyze our own results as far as coming up with IBD statistics anyway. We can look at population genetics, but these scientists haven't evaluated the results from the new large genetic genealogy databases. They can't tell us what the likelihood the 15 cM segment we share with a match is from our common 4 x great-grandparents.

As genetic genealogy testing consumers we must rely on the data analysis the companies are providing us with. Companies like AncestryDNA are putting out statistics like these:

Confidence score	Approximate amount of sharing	Likelihood you and your match share a recent common ancestor within 5 or 6 generations
Extremely high	More than 30 centiMorgans	Virtually 100%
Very high	20-30 centiMorgans	99%
High	12-20 centiMorgans	95%
Good	6-12 centiMorgans	More than 50%
Moderate	6 centiMorgans or less	20-50%

To me a 99% probability is good? This would imply that my Aunt's 5th cousin match sharing a 20 and 15.7 cM segment more than likely shares IBD segments? The 99% probability means they likely share an ancestor within the past 6 generations. If we take away 10 cM's for phasing, timber etc. we are still in the 99% probability range.




Here I've crossed out lines that are not Colonial American in my Aunt Loretta's tree. Most of these ancestors came to the US at the turn of the 20th Century. The only line that would



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correspond with this match would be through Mary Owens born 1852. Her ancestors were all Colonial Americans. Aunt Loretta's 5th cousin match has mostly Colonial Virginian ancestry. I haven't traced any lines except one back to Colonial Virginia. I have my Aunt's lines back 6 generations, and more, except in Ireland. I feel confident after examining the tree of our match, and my Aunt's tree, that any matching segments more likely than not match to our Colonial American ancestors.



If we find a triangulation on one of these segments, with good overlap, and that happened to be a 5th cousin match, I don't understand why that would be suspect either? As some would say. They would agree with this statement by Ancestry "In populations that have grown rapidly in the past 200 to 300 years, individuals are more likely to be related to each other through two or more ancestral couples. Such population growth may also lead to marriages between related individuals, such as second cousins. As in the founder effect, this also leads to an excess of DNA sharing, but due to multiple common ancestors living one to two hundred years ago, rather than thousands of years ago." The triangulation naysayers would say how can you tell where such a segment comes from if you might share several ancestral lines? Maybe you can use segment mapping or build out your tree as far as possible? Some are also saying that segments shared between those with many Colonial American lines are the result of endogamy. Read Ancestry's statement again. They are saying they aren't seeing the founders effect?

At AncestryDNA the lack of segment data makes it impossible for us to even try to decide which lines, out of maybe a couple possibilities, we might match on. You don't have to be a scientist to map segments.

I think most of the experts in the genetic genealogy field would agree with this statement from Ancestry: "The longer the stretches of evidence for identical haplotypes the more evidence there is that the identity is due to a recent common ancestor."

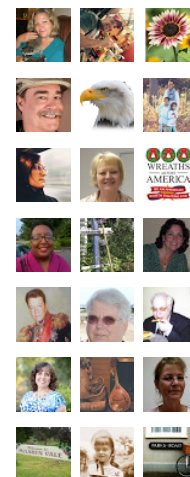
From Ancestry "Our test set contains over 150 genotyped samples from a large family with a well-researched pedigree containing about 2,500 relationships that vary from 1 meiosis to 15 meioses. In order to estimate recall, we must know whether a given pair of individuals has IBD." Ancestry compared 150 samples to find IBD, so we can find IBD by comparison. Wonder if they had Colonial American ancestors? I realize they only used this test set for finding IBD in close relatives, but this would seem to suggest mapping would help in establishing a relationship with more distant relatives.

We need the studies carried out by Ancestry and the other companies to guide us as to whether our matches have a good chance of sharing ancestors within the past 6 generations. We need good statistics regarding the likelihood a segment is IBD. Personally if a segment has a good chance of being IBD and I share a set of common ancestors with a match I have little doubt where the segment came from.

Reading Ancestry's [white paper for matches](#) did give me some pause for thought...

"third cousins, in fact, are only about 98% likely to have any IBD." Only? That's a pretty high percentage to me? That statement is a little troubling. I hope the rest of the reasoning behind their analysis is better?

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Given the chance I think non scientists, provided with segment IBD probabilities and good trees, can make valid connections with matches

Posted by [Annette](#) at [4:17 PM](#) 3 comments: 

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Friday, February 26, 2016

## Comparing Match cMs At Different Sites

After a discussion at ISOGG Facebook I decided compare the data from matches who have results in multiple places including AncestryDNA, Family Tree DNA, 23andMe, and GEDmatch. I copied all my mother's match names from these site. I then sorted the names alphabetically. I found it was impossible to compare with AncestryDNA testers because most do not use their first and last names. Because so few testers use first and last names I was not able to use this method to find testers who were also in the other databases. It would be too time consuming to pick out those using their own first and last names. So I decided to do a more scaled down comparison using known cousins who have results in multiple places.

My results demonstrate that segment cM's are generally close to the same when comparing at Family Tree DNA, 23andMe, and GEDmatch. I did find a case where a segment cM's were 10 cM's apart between Family Tree DNA and GEDmatch. SNP totals at GEDmatch are often lower. Now I know to turn down the SNP totals when comparing at GEDmatch. I'll use 500 SNPs now.

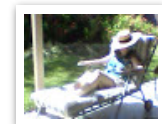
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	Initials of Testers	Chromosome	SNP's FTDNA	FTDNA Segments cM's	SNP's 23andMe	23andMe Segments cM's	SNP's GEDmatch	GEDmatch segments	
2	SC	15	2566	13.08	1964	12	1154	14.4	
3	AG	9	5197	30.58	5197	29.9	4646	32.6	
4	NH	2	2800	12.73	2491	14.63	1290	16.3	
5	NH	6	1800	8.59	1444	9	894	9.2	
6	DP	12	1078	7.07			522	9.6	
7	DP	15	6195	26.15			2552	35.8	
8	DP	16	1377	9.17			608	10.07	
9	AA	2	2600	11.96			1119	13.6	
10	AA	6	4300	18.17			1934	18.5	
11	AA	17	3194	13.92			1345	12.8	
12	BG	2	2900	13.71			1235	15.7	
13	BG	6	2900	18.17			1946	18.6	
14									

Since AncestryDNA doesn't share their segment information I couldn't compare using segment totals. Instead I compared with cM totals. I didn't use segments under 7 cM's in the Family Tree DNA totals. It looks like GEDmatch always has the highest total cM's. Ancestry always has the lowest. The average difference between Ancestry DNA and the other sites is 17 cM's. AncestryDNA phases and filters matches raw results, which is the reason for the differences in total cM's

Most of these matches are predicted in about the same cousin range at Ancestry and the other sites. The problem can be seen in my first chart. 23andMe, Family Tree DNA, and GEDmatch all show the person in chart one line 1 as a match. This person did test at Ancestry isn't a match with my mother there, even though she is a confirmed 4th cousin. I hadn't noticed until putting this together. I'm noticing more matches at the other sites who don't match at Ancestry. I have at least 5 confirmed cousins who did match at Ancestry, but don't now. Likely because of Timber. I'm not seeing this when looking at matches elsewhere. I'm sure some don't match at Family Tree DNA, but match elsewhere because of the 20 cM requirement. I have not encountered that because 1 cM segments are included.

Someone said if the results are different between sites what difference does it make? Ok, if each company has slightly different ranges but come up with the same matches then there

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**Annette**

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J	K	L	M	N	O
AncestryDNA Total cMs	FTDNA total cMs	23andMe total cMs	GEDmatch cMs	Actual Relationship	
didn't match	13.08	12	14.4	4th cousin 1x removed	SC
11	30.58	30	32.6	adopted	AG
13.4	21.32	24	25.5	4th cousin 1x removed	NH
31	42.39		61.5	3rd cousin 1 x removed	DP
23.2	30.13		45	4th cousin	AA
12.7	31.88		34.3	4th Cousin 1x removed	BG

isn't any problem. If confirmed cousin matches are being lost than I believe the companies should be rethinking their testing and matching procedures. Third cousins, and more distant cousins, are the ones affected by unreliable matching techniques. If a match shares only once segment they are more likely to be disappear as a match with additional processing.

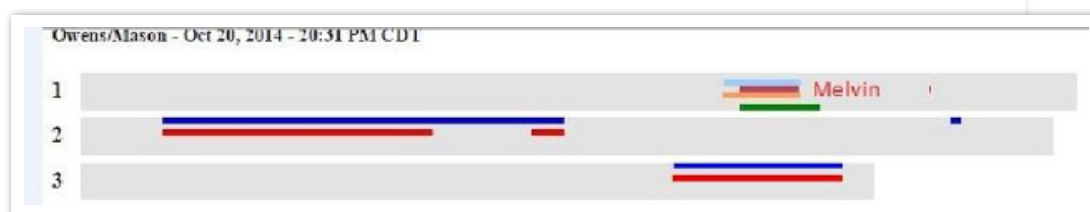
Putting this together I have found more difficulties working with AncestryDNA than the others sites.

1. Ancestry doesn't allow you to download matches or their cM numbers (I used the chrome extension. Doesn't include cMs). 23andMe and Family Tree DNA allow you to download spreadsheets.
2. Ancestry should encourage testers to provide full names if they want to participate in sharing with other testers. I understand why some may not want to use their real names. They should use a consistent pseudonym, and use it everywhere, if they want to collaborate.
3. It would be nice if we could filter matches by total cMs.
4. It would be nice if we could search by username.

Posted by **Annette** at **9:46 PM** 4 comments: 

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

## Triangulation Example



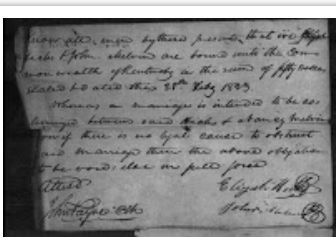
Some ISOGG group members at Facebook have been wanting to see examples of triangulation at the 6th cousin level. My Melvin family segment triangulations would be closest to this cousin range. One match is a 5th cousin 1x removed, which is pretty much equivalent. This triangulation is with descendants of John Melvin b. abt. 1776, Maryland and

Mary Redden b. abt. 1777 Maryland. The Melvin segment matches are as follows (see chart above, which includes my Aunt, myself, and two other distant cousins):

- 1. The light blue segment, on chromosome 1, represents my Aunt on my Paternal side. She shares this 22.1 cM segment with a 3rd cousin. This match is a descendant of our common ancestors John Melvin and Mary Redden.
- 2. The light pink segment, on Chromosome 1, of the same size is my segment match with the same person as my Aunt. This is a 3rd cousin 1 x removed to me.
- 3. The smaller dark pink segment sandwiched between the ones described above belongs to another John Melvin and Mary Redden match. This 14.2 segment is also shared by my Aunt and myself. This match is a 5th cousin to my Aunt, and a 5th cousin 1x removed to me.
- 4. The green segment is where the 3rd cousin range match, to my aunt and myself, matches our 5th cousin range match. These 5th cousins share a slightly larger segment which is 18.6 cMs. You'll notice it extends passed the segments my aunt and I share.

Both of our Melvin matches have good trees. Our 5th cousin range match has all lines going out at least 6 generations. Looking at other possible lines which may also be the source of these segments I don't see any other matching ancestors.

My proof of relationship to this Melvin family is through US Census research, a bible record, and the Elijah Hicks and Nancy Melvin marriage record.



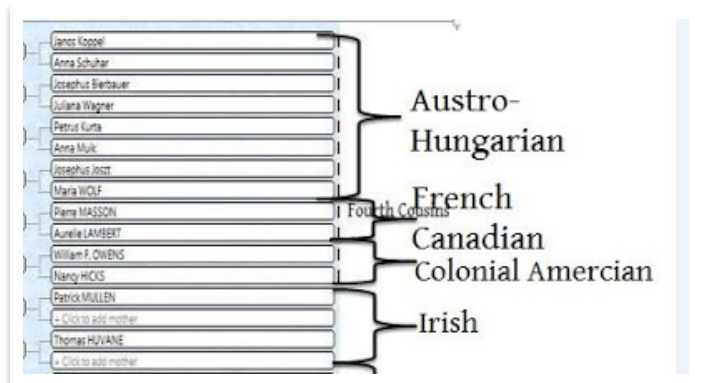
Elijah Hicks and John Melvin sign marriage bond

Examining whether these segments are likely IBD it would seem that they are in that cM range. Checking to see if my mother shares the same segment on chromosome 1 with all of these matches. No she doesn't match. You can see here my comparison between my paternal aunt with my mother. All of our Melvin matches matched between 165,698,481 to 180,598,459 on chromo 1,:

1	179,625,030	180,348,583	1.0	188
1	180,491,413	181,868,931	1.8	298

My Mom and my Paternal Aunt's shares in the same place as a 3rd cousin and 5th Melvin cousin match

Looking a little more for possible places where our ancestors may have crossed paths I made this chart. Are we all from the same ethnic background? Could these be population segments? My paternal aunt and I have a fairly unique ethnic makeup. My 3x great-grandparents William Owens b. 1820 and Nancy Hick b. 27 Oct 1831 and their ancestors make up our only Colonial American line.



Here you see our lines are Austro-Hungarian, French Canadian, Colonial American, and Irish Catholic. When looking at the places of origin for the Melvin matches of my aunt and I, we find both have quite a bit of Colonial Ancestry. I don't see any other shared ancestors between either of the other two testers. We all have Colonial Ancestry, but no other shared ancestors. My Colonial line on the paternal side is very small. Neither tester has French Canadian roots like my Aunt and I. Neither has Burgenland, Austria ancestry, as my Aunt and I do. They don't have Irish Catholic roots either. Our 3rd cousin match has a large Scandinavian line, which none of the rest of us have.

I think it's more likely than not that this Melvin Family triangulation is a good triangulation.

Some of those who would discredit triangulation would say, well it could just be a coincidence that we all match in the same place on chromosome 1. They would also say it's nearly impossible to share segments with cousins in that range. Chances of matching at all at that range are minuscule. It would be like being struck by lightning to triangulate at that cousin distance, so they would say. What are the chances we would all match in the same place and share the same ancestors? Wouldn't that be as unusual if you are sticking with statistical probability? I have a feeling we have a long way to go before we even really know what the statistical probabilities are? We aren't able to do enough comparisons, or look at enough possible triangulations to get an idea of how likely or unlikely they are to occur. A company is holding a huge amount of our genome information, but they aren't sharing it with customers. They will sell genomes for medical research though.

PS This company now has no chromosome browser in 29 countries!

Posted by **Annette** at **4:31 PM** 1 comment:

Wednesday, February 17, 2016

## DNA On Fire AncestryDNA 4th Quarter 2015 Report



The Fourth Quarter, and 2015 full year report, at AncestryDNA emphasized the importance of the DNA product. This product has resulted in an increase in Ancestry subscriptions, which is Ancestry's core product. The 1 million new testers in 2015 helped increase subscriptions from 2,115,000 in the year ending December 2014, to the 2,264,000 in the year ending Dec 2015. An increase of 149,000. The subscribers who came to Ancestry through the DNA product are more engaged, and tend to subscribe to more expensive packages. They also tend to renew their subscriptions, according to Ancestry.

AncestryDNA now has 1.5 million testers in their database. The reason we are not seeing more tools like, a chromosome browser, is because sales are "on fire" according to one Ancestry Official. Black Friday 2015 sales were up 200% over last year. AncestryDNA has a lower profit margin than subscriptions, so as long as sales are brisk we won't be seeing new tools which would cost money to add.

The Ancestry Executives were also asked if the new medical focus has resulted in more hacking attempts? One Executive said he didn't want to divulge that information. Interesting at that point in the conference call the line suddenly went dead. I thought, were they hacked lol?

One Executive said a show Ancestry is sponsoring will likely increase DNA sales. **Long Lost Family** which will premiere its second season on TLC March 6, 2016 will be sponsored by Ancestry. Sounds like it's based on a British show.

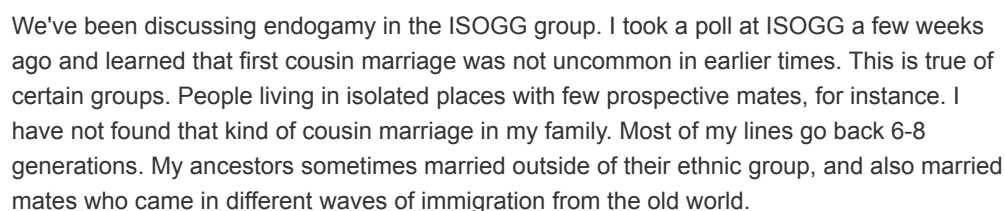
The sentiment regarding the DNA product's 2015 sales, and the current 2016 sales, has led these CEO's to forecast continued fiery sales of the DNA kits in 2016.

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Posted by **Annette** at **3:43 PM**    **No comments:**

Monday, February 15, 2016

## DNA: Not The Endogamy Of Cousins



When I say not the endogamy of cousins I mean for most of us we aren't seeing any close cousin marriage out to 6 or 8 generations. We do see the affect of the smaller early American population. When my American ancestors came to America they initially settled in Pennsylvania and Maryland. They migrated from there to either the Midwest or South. Small populations in these areas, and common migration patterns, could mean my matches' ancestors may have crossed paths with my ancestors more than once. I have found in a couple of instances that I could be related to a match through two different couples. This is a potential pitfall if you haven't carefully compared your tree with a match. This isn't the endogamy of cousin marriage, because it doesn't represent close cousins marrying, it's just that your ancestors crossed paths more than once when the population was smaller.

This is where mapping out chromosomes helps. Using the segments of matches, and your immediate family, going out to the 3rd cousin range you can begin naming your segments for family lines. I will never be able to do this for certain ethnic lines due to the lack of surviving records in the home country, so in that case I just name the segments according to ethnicity. Filling in the chromosome chart with named segments helps to identify matches who's segments overlap with confirmed family.

We are able to collect these segments at Family Tree DNA and 23andMe. Family Tree DNA makes it easy by allowing us to see the segment information for all matches. At 23andMe you generally have to ask to share. 23andMe now has opt in sharing, which is working out for me better than expected.

At AncestryDNA there is no way to see the chromosome information. This creates a problem considering our ancestors may have crossed paths more than once. Without the possibility of mapping how do we know which or two, or more, couples we may have gotten our shared DNA from? AncestryDNA also has more of the segments we need to create such a map. I have closer matches there than at the other two companies. Their data could help me a great deal, and all of us.

Ancestry believes in DNA mapping because they recreated the **genome of David Speegle**



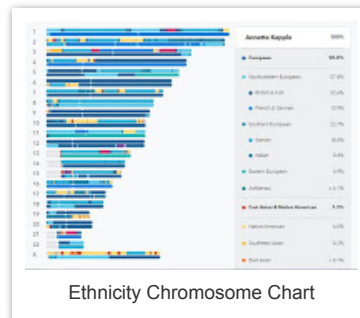
using this technique. Some say we have segments going back to endogamy; if not more recently from America then going back to the old countries. These suppositions didn't seem to affect Ancestry's genome recreation?

Many will tell us compare at GEDmatch. Few of my matches have agreed to compare there. The process is confusing for those who aren't computer savvy. Others worry about the privacy of the site. The best solution, which would produce the most compliance, would be an opt in segment sharing system, like 23andMe.

Another problem with AncestryDNA is the problem plagued messaging system. If we don't hear from our matches it could be they aren't interested in sharing, or they didn't get the message at all?

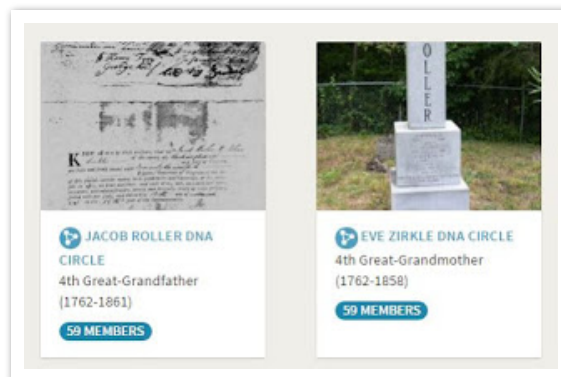
Here is what Mapping can do for you:

1. A well filled in map can help identify the ancestral route of a segment. This helps even when a match isn't cooperative.
2. It can help to identify which of two or more couples a segment came from.
3. It can help you eliminate IBS segments. You might find segments your parents don't match on.
4. If you're using smaller segments as proof mapping can help confirm them.
5. Chromosome matching segment maps can be compared to ethnicity chromosome maps to confirm ancestry. If you are 100% European the ethnicity chromosome chart won't help.



Without mapping we are hamstrung in certain situations.

This couple (below) now has 59 members in their circles. This could greatly help with chromosome mapping. Maybe Ancestry will sell us their genomes at some point?



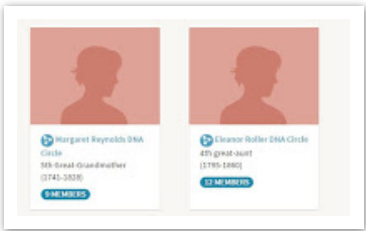
Posted by Annette at 1:05 PM 1 comment:

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

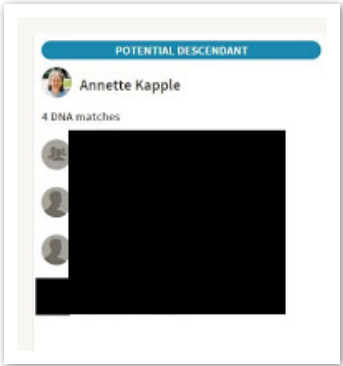
## Wife Of 3RD Cousin 5X Removed In An Ancestry Circle?



I misunderstood the Circles at AncestryDNA. I had thought they were reserved for direct line ancestors. Apparently they can include aunts, uncles, cousins and their spouses; if they are in your tree. I just found a Circle for a several times great-aunt. When I click on her Circle I'm listed as a potential descendant. This can cause confusion if you don't read all the descriptions carefully. I'm not included in the Circle though.



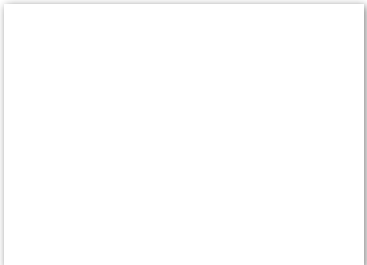
To me it would make more sense to include non direct line ancestors in NAD's. The Circles should form for the strongest links. If they are extended beyond that to the wife of a 3rd Cousin 5x removed, for example, then we are getting into some very weak associations. Couldn't ancestry just exclude certain relationships from Circles?



Posted by Annette at 12:36 PM 1 comment:

Friday, January 15, 2016

# Reconstructing My Grandfather And Great-Father's Genomes





Fred Mason's sons Edwin and Frank

I am trying to reconstruct and color in the chromosome charts for my Maternal Grandfather Charles Lynn Forgey and Paternal Great-Grandfather Fred Augustus Mason. Since Charles Forgey's wife was Nicaraguan it's easy to separate out DNA that belongs to him. I'm only using identified segments to reconstruct his genome. Segments associated with Fred Mason are easy to pick out because his wife was Irish, and he was French Canadian on his father's side. He had early American roots on his Mother's side..

I've thrown out more requests to compare results to close matches relating to these men at AncestryDNA. No answers yet. If these cousins would compare it would certainly help fill in my charts.

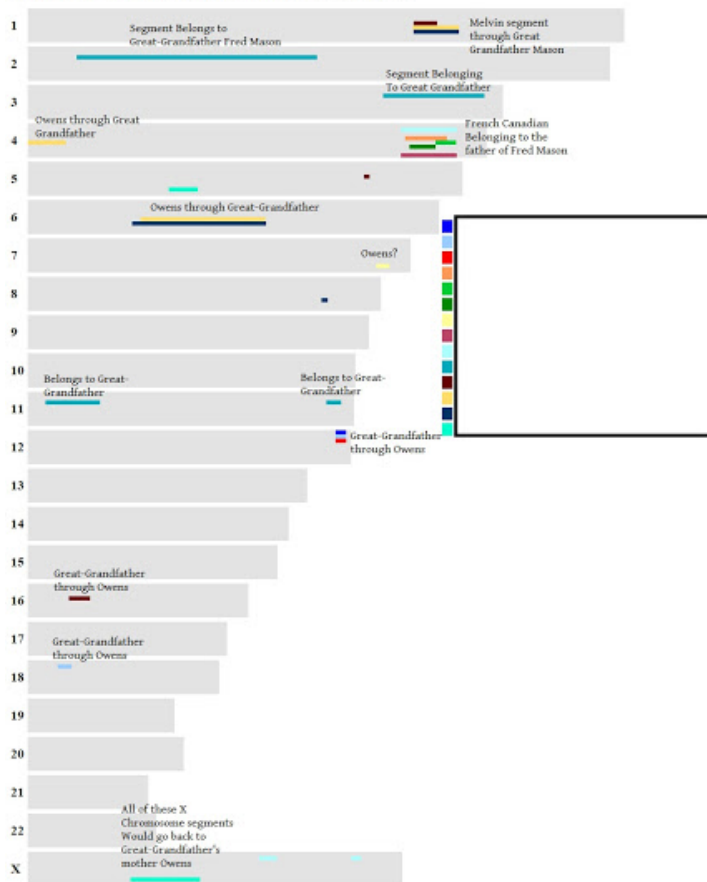
I'm using an Aunt's results and some cousins results to fill in my Great-Grandfather Fred Augustus Mason's chart. I can see some X shares between an Aunt and a 2nd cousin 1x removed. I also share an 18cM segment on the X with the same cousin. This would go back to the Owens line because Fred's father would not have passed his X along to him. I'm not even attempting to name French Canadian segments due to endogamy.

According to Ancestry those with the triangulation on chromosome 12 only share about 7 cM's; according to GEDmatch they share 14 cM's. They match both places. The 7 cM difference is common between GEDmatch and AncestryDNA. As I said before I'm only using the segments of paper trail cousins.



Don't have a picture of Fred Mason  
He died in 1917 these are his children  
My Grandmother far left

Overlapping Segment Map from owens for kitty.csv - Jan 15, 2016 - 15:11 PM CST



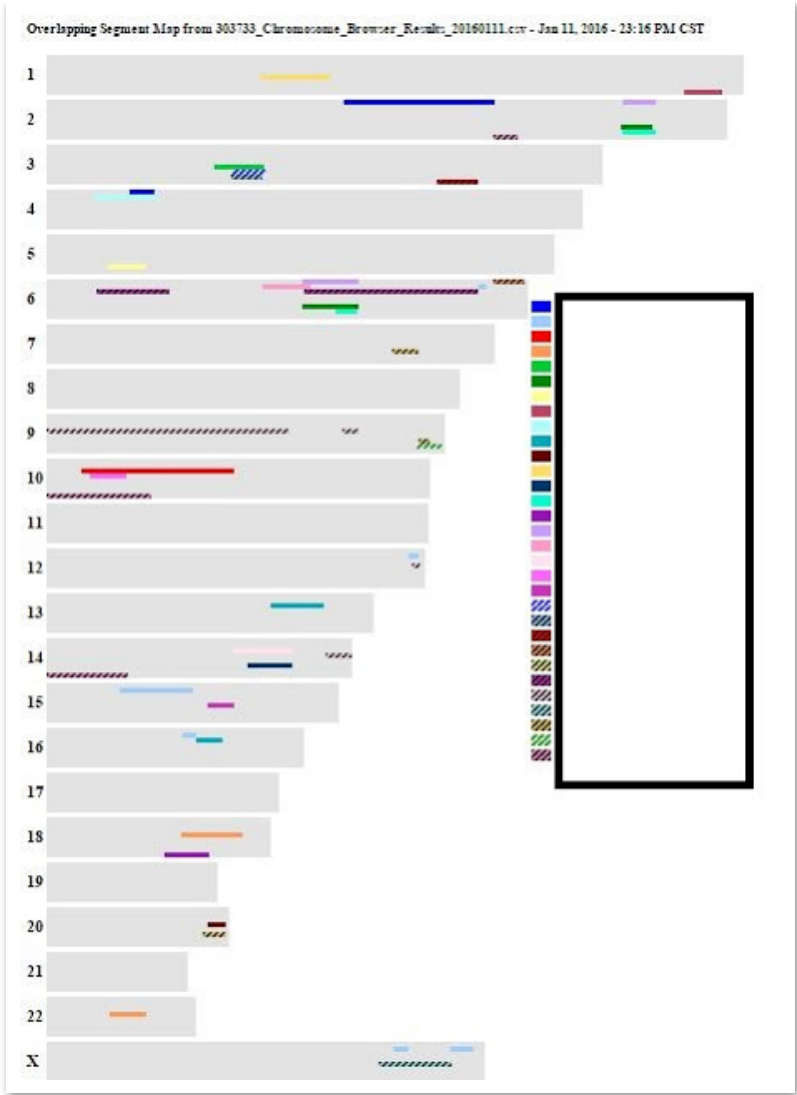
Overlapping Segment Mapping Tool by Kitty Cooper Blogging at <http://kittycooper.com>

Because the image above is small and images, you can cut and past it into an email but it is best saved via a screen shot (depends on how and what screen) or save as a web page in which case you will also need the image files to see the stripes. Click here to download them in a zip file: <http://kittycooper.com> Put this zip file in the same folder as the saved webpage and then remove the stripedForce from the end of the folder name when extracting the images.

[Return to form](#) [Return to DNAdistance.com](#)

This is where I am with my Grandfather Charles Lynn Forgey's chart. I am using cousins and my Mother's results to fill this in. If the 70 cM and over matches at AncestryDNA would compare I could definitely make great progress on this chart.

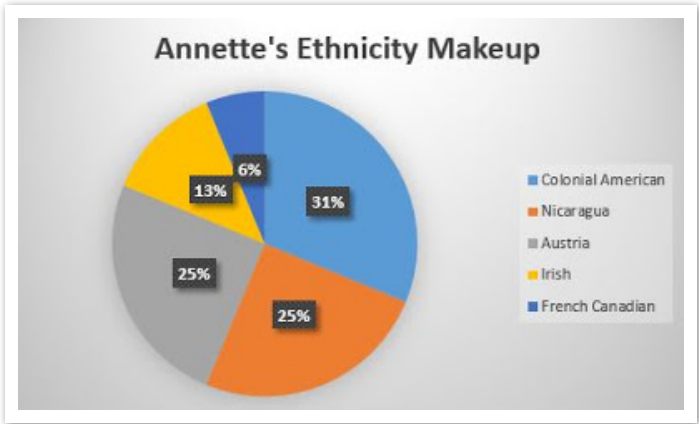




Posted by Annette at 3:31 PM 3 comments:

Saturday, January 9, 2016

# DNA: Triangulation, Pileups & Endogamy





There has been some debate at the ISOGG group about whether triangulation is possible beyond 4 generations. For triangulation to work the segments we are comparing would need to go back to a common ancestors within the genealogical time frame. The DNA testing companies estimate the regions of the genome they are comparing contain uncommon SNP's. They estimate when you share segments with matches that generally the relationship isn't much farther back than 6 or 7 generations. If this is the case then triangulation is possible if both you and your match have a tree that is fairly complete to 6 generations. Even if it isn't complete you can reasonably draw inferences about what the rest of the tree might look like. If someone is half Italian and you haven't found any Italian ancestors you can easily eliminate half that persons tree. In other cases in the US, for example. you can reasonably eliminate possible ancestor matches based on the region of the country they were from.

Some are questioning the age of the SNP's we inherit. Are they 200 or 300 years old or are they ancient, 500 years old or older? We generally share very little DNA with ancestors who lived 200 years ago. It's hard to believe that we would continue to share SNP's from 500 years. If we do it sounds like it would be a very small number and the amount of DNA would be very small, and would not be considered a match by the testing companies.

Some cite endogamy as the reason 500 year old and older SNP's persist. There is a high degree of interrelatedness among those of us who have Colonial American ancestors. Americans whose families remained in the same eastern seaboard areas since Colonial times tend to have problems with endogamy when they DNA test. Although those living in urban eastern seaboard areas tend to be more ethnically mixed as waves of immigrants settled these areas. The amount of interrelatedness among Americans varies. Even if someones ancestors lived in the same rural area for hundreds of year it doesn't mean they are highly genetically related to their neighbors. You might also see more recent immigrant groups, like the Italians, coming in and adding to the gene pool in rural areas. Many Scandinavians settled in the Midwest adding their own genes to the mix. Many of us on the West Coast of the US have Hispanic or Asian genes. This dilutes our Colonial American gene percentage.

Most of my Colonial American ancestors were Scot-Irish and German. I can pinpoint exactly when they came to the US in the 1700's. As for some of the others it's possible some of these lines go back to the first settlement of Jamestown? Could I be mistaken and some of the segments I've named actually go back to another ancestor who settled early in Jamestown? Or even go back to an ancestor back in England? I would think the odds are low considering the odds of actually still having a measurable amount of DNA, from that far, which would be enough to signal a match.

So why do we have so many matches piling up on one segment. Would sound like these are old SNP's that many people inherited and are common to certain ethnic population? Or maybe there are other reasons? Most all of my matches at AncestryDNA are from the same family group Roller/Zirkle/Roush. These families tended to marry close cousins because they lived in the isolated Shenandoah Valley, and I'm sure there were language, religious and cultural differences. This endogamy means that their descendants potentially have retained more of their DNA. My family never stayed in the same area for more than a generation or two. They didn't marry close cousins. Since we have inherited small amounts of DNA from our German ethnicity Roller/Zirkle/ Roush families we tend to match this family group more than any other group. We tend to get a match with one of those families once a week. We have 5 DNA Circles for these families. The likely reason for this is that our matches have ancestors who married cousins in this family group. Often I will see, for instance, Zirkle and Roush on their tree a couple times at the very least. These are our ancestors from around 250 years ago. We match so often because many of these families lived in the Shenandoah Valley for generations, and continue to live there, so these genes continue to cycle through the population. They have more DNA from these ancestors to

potentially match with.

Another reason for pileups is large numbers of descendants. In America families tended to be large before urbanization. The survival of children into adulthood tended higher than in Europe. American couples living in 19th Century America have large numbers of descendants living today.

America was settled during the genealogical time frame so this should mean that triangulation is possible. All of these facts I mentioned mean you need to build your tree out as far as possible, and compare with as many cousins as possible. The odds of sharing the same segments with the descendants of the same ancestors may not be statistically high. Considering the number of descendants some ancestors left I think it is statistically possible. The major problem I have is the lack of records dating back to the 1600's in the Mid-Atlantic and Southern States. Otherwise I believe triangulation is useful and accurate if other parties have reasonably complete trees. Odds are reasonably good the segments don't go back to the 1600's. Plus, in my case, only 31% of my ancestry goes back to Colonial America. Much of that ancestry is already traced back to the immigrants.

Could large proportions of the early population of American have shared recent ancestors because they came in a mass migration? I believe the early population of the Mid-Atlantic states and South was more varied? New England may have had a more homogeneous population coming from the same stock in England.

I'm a believer in Triangulation. The more testers we have the more opportunities we will have to make connections through Triangulation.

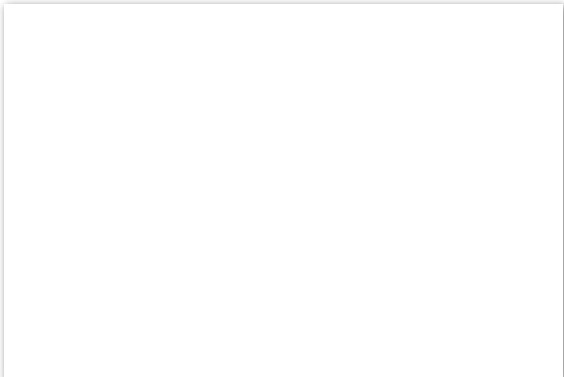
Without triangulation DNA testing will be useless for Americans with a high degrees of interrelatedness. How will they separate their lines?



Posted by Annette at 2:59 PM 2 comments:

Monday, January 4, 2016

# Trip To Nicaragua And DNA Cousin Match



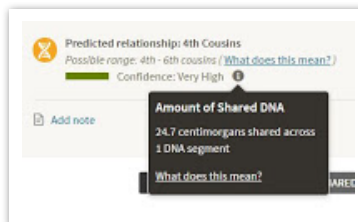


Mombacho Volcano as seen from Granada

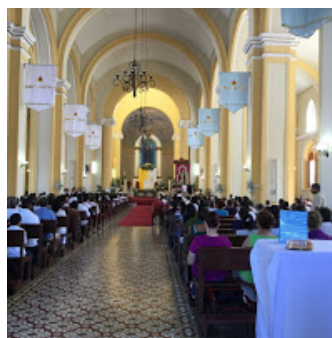
I was in Nicaragua from December 7th to the 12th site seeing, and researching at the archives in Granada, Nicaragua. It was a fabulous trip! I loved it there. Beautiful scenery, lush and green. Exotic animals, such as the loud howler monkeys I heard while touring a volcano. Warm weather. It was in the 90's during the day and the 70's at night. Beautiful Colonial adobe architecture in Granada. I stayed one night in Managua and 4 nights in Granada. My mother, Edna Forgey-Kapple, was born in Granada, Nicaragua to a Nicaraguan mother and a US Marine father.



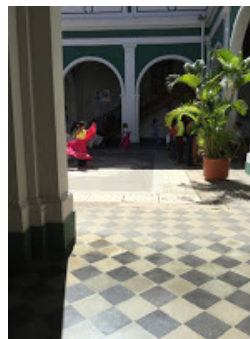
I had very little information about the Nicaraguan side of my family. The only info I had came from my grandmother Graciela Del Castillo's death certificate, some information about the siblings of my grandmother, and a will she made which named a cousin. The will didn't give the degree of cousin he was. I matched a great-granddaughter of this cousin, Francisco Alvarado Granizo, at AncestryDNA. Until the recent addition of the total cM numbers at AncestryDNA I didn't know how much DNA we shared with this cousin, because this cousin has not uploaded to GEDmatch. I share 24.7 cM's and 1 segment, and my mother shares 20 cM's on 1 segment. This shouldn't be. I think this reflects the problems with AncestryDNA's Timber filter. I don't place that much confidence in the cM numbers, which tends to be on average 7 cM's different than everyone else due to the Timber filter and phasing. According to AncestryDNA we are 4th to 6th cousins of Francisco Alvarado Granizo's Great-Granddaughter. I didn't know of any surnames shared in common? No Alvarados or Granizos that I knew of. But my family history for my Nicaraguan family only went back to my great-grandparents and their children, and their children's spouses.



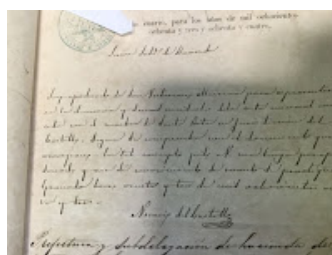
I had no idea that my first day in Granada, Nicaragua was a National Holiday in Nicaragua. It's called La Purisima. It's the feast day of the Immaculate Conception. I guess I'm not that good a Catholic because I had no idea. I couldn't do any research that day due to the fact the archives were closed for the holiday. I had a great day anyway though. I went on a Colonial Homes tour and attended part of the Immaculate Conception feast mass, which was followed by a several blocks long procession with the Statute of the Virgin which included music from a band. I agree with a Youtube comment "Mary is Nicaragua and Nicaragua is Mary."



I had heard these celebrations can lead to a week long closures of government offices. I lucked out and the Municipal Archives opened the day after the Holiday. I was thrilled. It was very hot in the Archives room which didn't have any air conditioning. I melted. There is definitely some of my DNA on the records at the Archives because perspiration was dripping. They had double doors open which did bring in a breeze. The tropical plants outside the door looked nice, during my breaks I looked out at them. I was also serenaded by lovely piano and violin music from the next room. I recognized Yankee Doodle being played at one point. The Archives is located in a public cultural center. Ballet Folklorico was also danced outside in the courtyard. My Grandmother definitely danced there also, because this center was a theater when she lived in Granada.

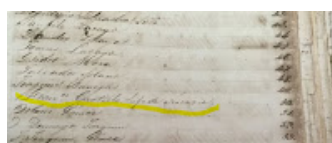


My extremely limited Spanish vocabulary meant communication with the archives staff was difficult. I printed my family tree and showed that to them. This did help a great deal. I knew they had a couple Censuses for Granada from the 19th Century. I was able to explain I wanted to look at these. I had no luck with the first Census I looked at which was falling apart and missing pages. One of the archives staff members found my family on the 1882 Census for Granada. I had no idea that wives were listed with their maiden names. Like French Canadians, Nicaraguan women retained their maiden names. I was so excited when I found out my great-great grandmother's maiden name was Granizo. Now we have a common surname with the Great-Granddaughter of Francisco Alvarado Granizo. Based on this our relationship to Francisco Alvarado Granizo could be 2nd cousin 1x removed for my Mom, and a 2nd cousin 2x removed for me. Based on the shared DNA with his great-granddaughter this could be the case. If I'm calculating correctly his great-granddaughter could be a 3rd cousin 1 x removed to my mother. The 20 cM share would fit with this relationship range, with 3rd cousins 1 x removed sharing from about 11 cM's to about 100 cM's. I still have several brickwalls on my Nicaraguan line so this relationship is one possibility. Still I'm thrilled to finally have a common surname with this DNA match.



Nicasio's signature and personal flourish or rubrica

I was also able to solve a mystery regarding my grandmother's father. Someone named the wrong Nicasio Del Castillo as her father. I was thinking that Nicasio, who was President in 1856, would have been way too old to have been her father. That was a correct assumption. From the 1882 Census I found out that there was a younger Nicasio Del Castillo who was only 16 in 1882. The correct age range to have been my grandmother's father. His father was Francisco Del Castillo. According to a niece of my grandmother the Nicasio who was her grandfather, and my Grandmother's father, was the son of a Francisco. The 1882, 16 year old, Nicasio's father was Francisco. Francisco was an attorney. My grandfather Nicasio was also an attorney. I'm so glad my mother told me her grandfather was an attorney because this profession seems to have been passed down in the family. According to other documents I've found Nicasio, the President, was the father of Francisco and the grandfather of my Nicacio Del Castillo Granizo. The elder Nicasio is listed next to Francisco on the 1882 Census and was 66 years old then. According to other documents he probably

[illegible]

died in 1884.

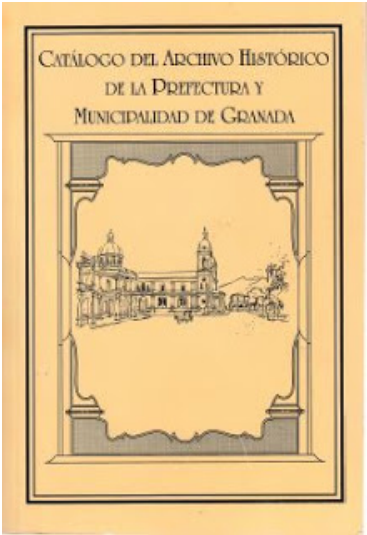
My entire trip was a success. I was able to add 3 new ancestors to my family tree and another surname. My Nicaraguan line tree still looks sparse, but is quite good by Nicaraguan standards. Due to record losses family trees are generally short. I'm hoping to return to Nicaragua in the near future with a Y DNA kit. Hope I can find a male Del Castillo to take the test. Y testing could take my Del Castillo tree back to 1600's Seville, Spain.

The **Director of the Arts Center Dieter Stadler** , who is Austrian, asked me if I came to Nicaragua solely to research in the Archives. Would I travel over 3,000 miles just to look at a couple of Censuses? Probably... I also wanted to see the place where my Mom was born. Visit the church she was baptized in.

Father			
Francisco DEL CASTILLO			
b. 1842 Granada, Nicaragua			
d.			
Mother			
Alexandra Granito			
b. 1843 Granada, Nicaragua			
d.			
Children			
1	Nicolas DEL CASTILLO	M	1856 Granada, Nicaragua
2	Flore DEL CASTILLO	M	1863 Granada, Nicaragua
3	Adela DEL CASTILLO	F	1869 Granada, Nicaragua
4	Francisco DEL CASTILLO	M	1874 Granada, Nicaragua
5	Rosa E DEL CASTILLO	F	1875 Granada, Nicaragua
6	Salvador DEL CASTILLO	M	1877 Granada, Nicaragua

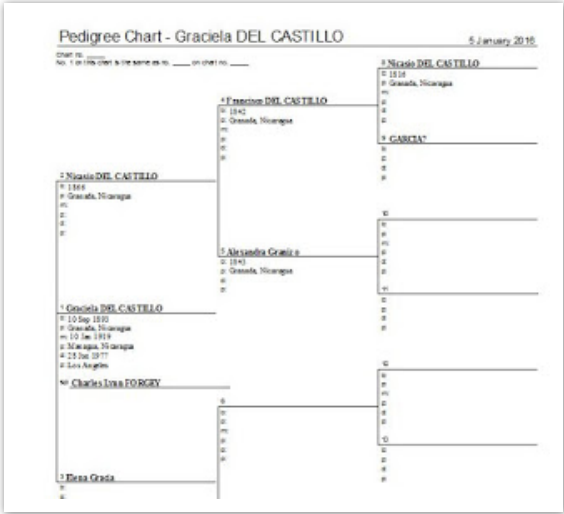
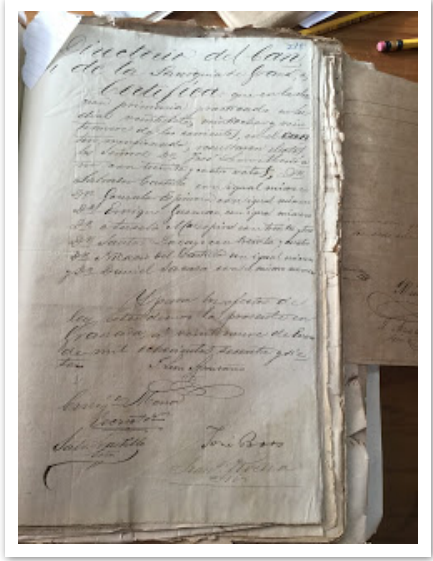
I'm praying for Nicaragua, as my mother did. When ever there was a disaster my Mom would say it hurt her because that was her country. Now I feel like it's my country too. Before my Mom passed away last August I told her I planned to visit the place where she was born. It's a beautiful country with friendly beautiful people. Tourism is helping this very poor country. I'm hoping to see continued progress when I return.

Nicaragua 2015



I have a PDF and paperback copy of the catalog





Posted by Annette at 7:14 PM 4 comments:

Wednesday, December 2, 2015

# 23andMe Shared Matches A Week Later

Strength of Relationship	Sharing
Third to Distant Cousin 0.10% shared, 1 segments	
Third to Distant Cousin 0.10% shared, 1 segments	
Third to Distant Cousin 0.10% shared, 1 segments	
Third to Distant Cousin 0.10% shared, 1 segments	
Third to Distant Cousin 0.17% shared, 1 segments	
Third to Distant Cousin 0.16% shared, 1 segments	
Third to Distant Cousin 0.15% shared, 1 segments	



Still early as far as the introduction of the new open sharing feature at 23andMe. So far 7 people are open sharing on my mother's match list, and 10 are open sharing with me. I'm hoping the open sharing numbers grow. Anyone interested in using 23andMe for genealogy should agree to open sharing. You do need to check a box in order to participate. You are not automatically included in open sharing. (See this blog to get instructions for participating in open sharing ["How To Opt In"](#))

I'm hoping more people agree to open sharing? The wording for the opt in wouldn't encourage many people to share openly.

"By selecting open sharing, it is possible there is the risk that other DNA Relatives or **other users** will be able to identify certain information about you, including specific genetic variants related to health."

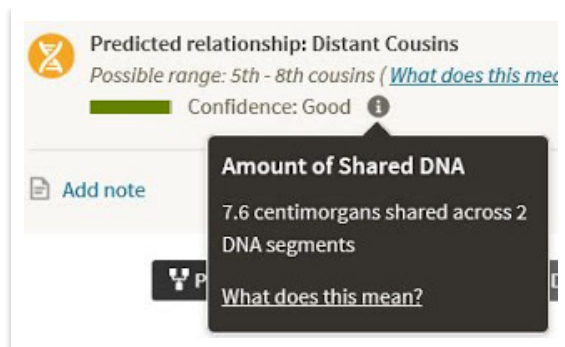
I'm not confident that many people will agree after reading this disclosure?

Before the changes I had access to the exact location of over 1000 shared segments. Half of those contained a match name, and the other half were anonymous. The anonymous matches could also be helpful since they listed the origins of all grandparents. Many of the segment matches were substantial in size. Of those either open sharing, or just sharing with us, most share smaller amounts of DNA. I do like the fact 23andMe provides a chromosome browser. The lack of trees and cooperation of matches makes 23andMe more difficult to glean useful information from.

Below is the now eliminated Countries of Origin information. You can see one match shares a 71.6 cM segment and another a 63.4 cM segment etc. This was very useful information because many of these matches did not agree to accept my sharing invitation. Sadly this information is no longer available. I still think adoptees should test with 23andMe, since you can get some pretty close matches. The more distant matches I'm looking for are more difficult to confirm now. I wouldn't recommend this test to those looking for cousins past 2nd. The cost is too high for the limited information you're likely to get.

J	K	L	M	N	O	P
Chromosome	SegmentS	SegmentE	SegmentL	SegmentLengthInCentiMorgans		
2	21.1	88.4	67.3	71.6		
6	91.8	154.3	62.5	63.4		
8	39.6	106.6	67	52.2		
2	21.1	68.2	47.1	49.9		
3	146.8	188.7	41.9	48.2		
7	2.6	28.4	24.8	40.8		
7	102.6	142.3	39.7	38.2		
10	33.9	70.2	36.3	32.3		
16	52.6	78.1	25.5	32.2		
2	23.3	50.1	26.8	31.9		
15	0	27.8	27.8	30.9		
10	87.7	117.9	30.2	30.1		
18	5.1	23.3	18.2	29.8		
11	72.8	103.6	30.8	29.2		
8	0	12.6	12.6	28.2		
3	170.9	188.3	17.4	28		
15	0	26.9	26.9	27.6		
15	0	26.8	26.8	27.1		
6	46.6	91.1	44.5	26.9		
16	54.3	77.4	23.1	26.5		

The fact AncestryDNA now provides some segment and total cM information does make this product more useful. Today I found a match on my Lambert line. When I looked at the segment information and total cM's I discovered I shared 7.6 cM's on two segments. This doesn't look like a very promising match. Since Ancestry is using the Timber filter further comparison at GEDmatch is needed to see if we actually share more DNA. I would recommend testing with AncestryDNA, but comparison at GEDmatch is often needed to confirm matches.

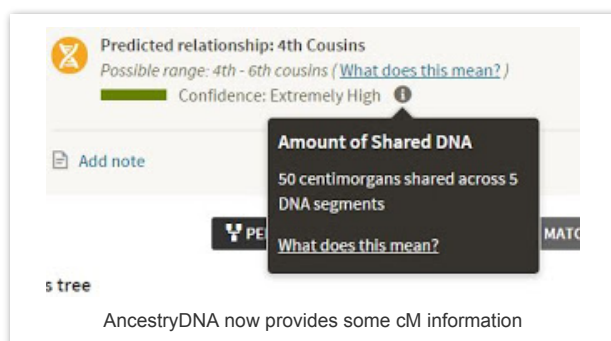


23andMe can make their test more useful for genealogists. Providing a good tree function at their site would be a step in the right direction. Right now AncestryDNA is the best place to test.

Posted by **Annette** at 2:45 PM No comments:

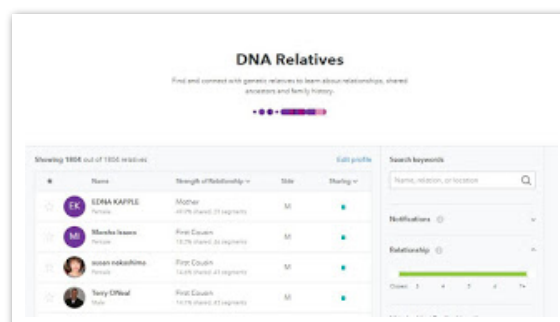
Monday, November 23, 2015

## AncestryDNA takes a few steps forward/ 23andMe steps backward and A Trip to Nicaragua



Important steps forward for AncestryDNA. First Ancestry introduced shared matches then a couple weeks ago they began allowing us to see exactly how much DNA we share and how many segments we share. Valuable information to have in order to evaluate matches and make connections. The DNA information isn't easy to find unless you do some

exploration of links on your matches' pages. This information is shown when you click the "i" next to the confidence level. I've been able to guess at some possible relationships using the shared match feature. Seeing the basis for matches looking at the shared DNA and number of shared segments has allowed me to evaluate the quality of my matches.



I was quite disappointed when a 3rd cousin was predicted to be a 4th to 6th cousin a couple of weeks ago. I feel this is a bad call. According to Ancestry this person shares 50 cMs with

me, which is in line with a 3rd cousin relationship. Glad I was able to see the shared cM's so I could dismiss the AncestryDNA prediction (sounds like someone at ISOGG on Facebook has a match sharing 6 cM's on 2 segments??). A second cousin's results came in a week ago and his relationship prediction was accurate. Looking at other matches I see that on average Ancestry is 7 cM's different than Family Tree DNA and GEDmatch. They can occasionally be as many as 20 cM's off. I think AncestryDNA should dump the Timber filter and use a more accurate filter. Sounds like more accurate filters process more slowly and are more costly? I would still like to see a chromosome browser. I'll lift my grade for AncestryDNA to a B. I would give it an A if they would provide a chromosome browser.

23andMe is taking steps backward with their genetic genealogy product. The FDA is allowing them to provide health related results again. The health product was the primary focus for 23andMe, and will be again. They are completely revamping their DNA product. The very useful "Countries Of Origin" tool is now gone. Without this tool 23andMe is far less useful because most matches won't agree to share genomes. The price has increased from \$99 to \$199. I wouldn't recommend this test for that price. Without "Countries of Origin" you are unlikely to get very much information from matches. The health results aren't generally useful unless you have a clearly defined genetically inherited disease risk. Lowering my grade for 23andMe to C- overall. They do get an A for their ethnicity product, which is virtually the same.



If you'd like to read more about the changes at 23andMe you can read this more in depth explanation at [Kitty Cooper's Blog](#). I noticed I have double the number of matches (about 1800) I had before, but most are anonymous. Also some of the physical characteristics reports were far off. My mother was predicted to have dark eyes. Her eyes were light hazel. My eyes are dark which is correct.

### Trip to Nicaragua:

I plan on leaving for a genealogy research trip to Granada, Nicaragua on December 7 (if all goes according to plan).

I have done some preliminary research. I've exchanged emails with an archive employee. He said that a staff member has found some information about my family. I have also learned about what is available at the archives from a distant cousin Alan (who is a DNA match). He has made a number of research trips to Nicaragua. He provided me with an index to the archive holdings.

My primary research location will be "Archivo de la Prefectura de la Municipalidad de Granada, Macario Álvarez", which contains 1,653 bundles of documents. This archive contains important genealogy sources such as Censuses and Military records. Another good source for Nicaragua was explained to me by my distant cousin Alan i.e. "recursos de habilitación are one of the more obviously genealogical series, they are coming of age documents usually the offspring of well to do families, in which they state that they are of legal age to enter into the administration of their patrimony and are x years of age, and their parents are x & x. I have not used this collection very much but it is specially useful for Granada families."

I hope to find more about our cousin Francisco Alvarado Granizo, and more about my Great-Grandparents Nicasio Del Castillo and Elena Garcia. According to my Aunt Grace, the informant on my Grandmother Graciela's death certificate, her parents were Nicasio Del Castillo and Elena Garcia. My Mother knew her grandmother was Elena. She didn't know her maiden name, or her grandfather's name. I believe Aunt Grace was a good informant because she worked as a secretary for many years and was very organized when it came to

keeping documents. My mother said her grandfather was a lawyer, which seems to suggest a relationship with Nicasio Del Castillo who left 28 years worth of legal books at the Granada Archives, which dated from 1857 to 1884. This Nicasio would seem to be too old to be my grandmother's father? Since the legal profession tended to be a family profession the elder Nicasio may have been my grandmother's grandfather? My grandmother was born in 1893.

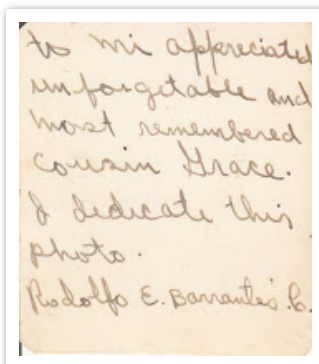
The death certificate for my grandmother Graciela Del Castillo is the only document I have naming my great-grandparents.

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH									
STATE OF CALIFORNIA—DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH									
OFFICE OF THE STATE REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS									
1. NAME OF DECEASED—GIVEN NAME		2. MIDDLE NAME		3. LAST NAME		4. DATE OF BIRTH		5. SEX	
Graciela		Isacresia		Forgey		June 28, 1977		F	
6. COLOR OR RACE		7. ETHNICITY OR ORIGIN		8. DATE OF DEATH		9. TIME OF DEATH		10. PLACE OF DEATH	
Caucasian		Nicaragua		September 10, 1993		8:00 a.		Home	
11. NAME AND RESIDENCE OF FATHER				12. MOTHER'S NAME AND RESIDENCE OF MOTHER				13. NAME OF SUPPORTING SPOUSE OF FATHER, OTHER NEAR KIN	
Nicasio del Castillo - Nicaragua				Elena Garcia - Nicaragua					
14. COUNTRY OF BIRTH		15. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		16. MARITAL STATUS		17. NAME OF SUPPORTING SPOUSE OF FATHER, OTHER NEAR KIN		18. NAME OF SUPPORTING SPOUSE OF MOTHER, OTHER NEAR KIN	
U.S.A.		547-25-3841-D		Married					
19. LAST OCCUPATION		20. EDUCATION		21. NAME OF LAST EMPLOYER		22. KIND OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS		23. NAME OF SUPPORTING SPOUSE OF FATHER, OTHER NEAR KIN	
Housewife		56		Ova Rose		Homemaking			
24. PLACE OF DEATH—NAME OF HOSPITAL OR OTHER INSTITUTION		25. STREET ADDRESS—CITY AND STATE		26. ZIP CODE		27. NAME OF SUPPORTING SPOUSE OF FATHER, OTHER NEAR KIN		28. NAME OF SUPPORTING SPOUSE OF MOTHER, OTHER NEAR KIN	
El Encanto Convalescent Hospital		555 El Encanto Road		90000					
29. CITY OR TOWN		30. COUNTY		31. STATE		32. NAME AND ADDRESS OF SUPPORTING SPOUSE OF FATHER, OTHER NEAR KIN		33. NAME AND ADDRESS OF SUPPORTING SPOUSE OF MOTHER, OTHER NEAR KIN	
City of Industry		Los Angeles		CA		Gracie Vilmat - Daughter		8327 Galt Drive, Downey, California	
34. USUAL RESIDENCE—STREET ADDRESS, CITY AND STATE		35. USUAL RESIDENCE—STREET ADDRESS, CITY AND STATE		36. USUAL RESIDENCE—STREET ADDRESS, CITY AND STATE		37. USUAL RESIDENCE—STREET ADDRESS, CITY AND STATE		38. USUAL RESIDENCE—STREET ADDRESS, CITY AND STATE	
246 4th Avenue		La Puente		Los Angeles		California			

A few years ago I exchanged emails with a distant Del Castillo cousin. He was living in Central America at the time. He provided me with the names of the siblings of my grandmother Graciela. I found out her brother Alberto was entombed in a Mausoleum in Granada. I will try to locate his tomb. I was able to find the exact relationship of the cousin pictured right with the help of this Central American man who did some research for me.



Most of Granada's 1856 and before government records were destroyed in that years due to an American William Walker taking over the presidency of Nicaragua, and the violence of that take over. I'm hoping to search an 1859 Census and an 1882 Census. Since I need more information regarding the identity of my Great-Grandparents the fact that earlier records are missing will not affect my initial research. In order to trace my family farther back marriage records called "expediente matrimonial" will need to have to have survived at the Catholic Cathedral diocese archives.



It will be interesting to see where my Grandparents and mother lived. My Grandfather Charles Forgey was born in Indiana. Ran away from home at age 17, joined the Marines in 1916 and was sent to Nicaragua. He married my Nicaragua native grandmother Graciela Del Castillo in 1919. My mother Edna was born in 1921. The family left Nicaragua in 1925 and settled in California. I'm a little apprehensive about traveling to a "Third World" country. I've gotten hepatitis and Typhoid vaccinations in preparation. Hoping all goes smoothly?



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Posted by [Annette](#) at [3:08 PM](#)    [6 comments:](#)    

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

## The DNA Detectives Series



I noticed Kelly Wheaton's post (Facebook ISOGG) about "The DNA Detectives" a New Zealand based, genetic genealogy themed, TV show. Great idea for a show! Hopefully it will



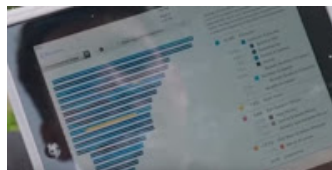
inspire more people to test. I have a few New Zealand and Australian matches; mostly based on my Irish ancestry.

You can watch the show here (see bottom of page) or at this link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lvFAyWoYpaY>

The show's host is a little quirky. His animated gestures are funny, like pretending to blow a train whistle at one point, and making a train sound effect. The set in the studio is retro themed, and the host slams a button to display the DNA results. Two celebrity guests were featured, Jack Tame and Ray McVinnie, in this 44 minute show. After an initial ethnicity test reveal, in the studio, the guests travel around the world in search of DNA cousins.

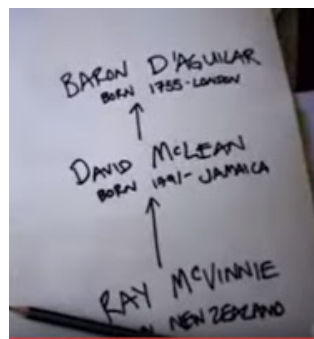
I enjoyed the show. I thought the first guest's, Jack Tame's, initial trip to New York was a let down, and I wasn't sure if the rest of the show would be similar (don't know why a painting couldn't be briefly unpacked and shown to him?). After the initial New York fail the rest of the show became increasingly interesting. I found the Elvis connection to the second guest, Ray McVinnie, a little bit of a stretch. This guest was related to a family in Oklahoma, who in turn were 5th cousins to Elvis. Not a very close tie to Elvis. The fact the family was related to the judge who overturned the Rosa Parks ruling, ending segregation in the south, was more interesting to me. One of the women explaining the family history to McVinnie misspoke, saying he is related to the Federal Judge Frank Thomas, actually his name was Frank Johnson (it's easy to see how someone can misspeak leading to later confusion when seeking to find more info).



South Asian segments

Kelly Wheaton's segments were interesting because they included more historical information, and actually showed the basis for one of the ethnicity percentages. Kelly had researched Tame's line. She found a surgeon, from Scotland, who immigrated to India in the 17th century. He married a native of India, which is where the 1.4% South Asian comes from. When Kelly showed him the large South Asian share from the 23andMe's ethnicity chromosome browser it really brought that fact home to him. He was blown away when he saw that. He had heard about some possible South Asian, but actually seeing the segment made it real. Kelly Wheaton is related to Tame, according to DNA test results, but she was not able to find the common ancestors. These distant cousins did share a resemblance as they noted.

The segment in Jamaica was very interesting also. This took McVinnie to Jamaica in search of the African ancestor who contributed the 2.2% African admixture. He met up with some distant cousins who showed him their family tree. Even though the guest wasn't aware of any connection with Jamaica he shared DNA and surnames in common, which established a definite relationship. The African ancestor was identified, and it sounds like he lived in the 18th century. He didn't expect his trace of Jewish ancestry to also stem from Jamaica, but it did. Portuguese Jews fled to Jamaica during the inquisition and other times of persecution.



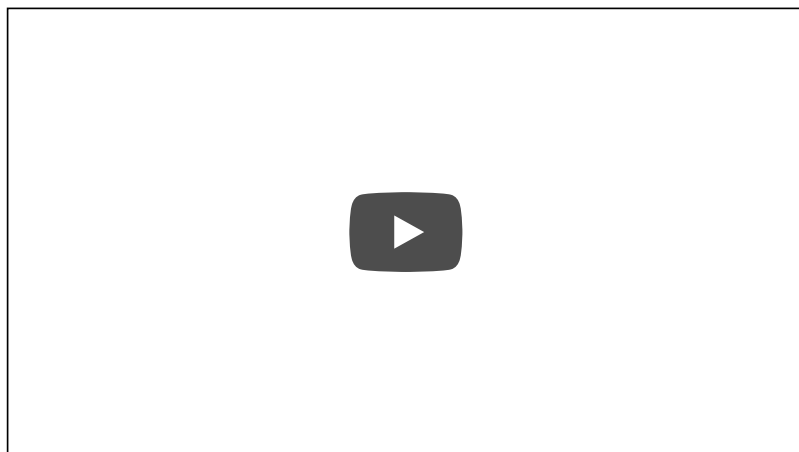
The final segment featured someone only identified as James. This man designs software to help adoptees find relatives. He is an expert at hacking into computer systems. He doesn't hack illegally, he does it as a career to help companies find holes in their security. Great to have someone as skilled as he is helping adoptees!

Some educational information coming out of this show:



1. Guest Tame's grandmother already knew some of the information which he discovered on his New York trip. This is something that always comes up on these kinds of shows. Relatives will later tell guests they already knew something. Many relatives never share stories unless asked.
2. Small 1 and 2 percent DNA shares can go back to the 18th Century. The host said these small shares can go back 200 to 300 years, and are not ancient. Likely correct. The featured guests had small ethnicity segments of from 0.40% to 2.2% and these shares went back to the 18th Century.
3. Guest two, McVinnie, would seem to have more Italian ethnicity than showed up in his ethnicity results. Southern European is not as well defined as Northern European when it comes to these tests. Probably because most testers are of Northern European heritage.
4. Always assume information passed down through generations could be wrong until you can find actual documentary evidence to support it. As a misspeak by one guest demonstrates.

This is a fun show and I hope we see something like this in the US.

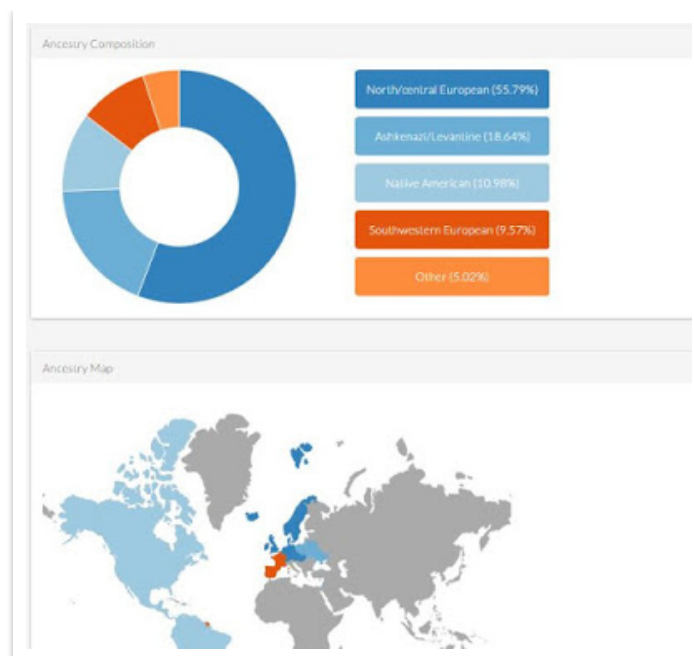


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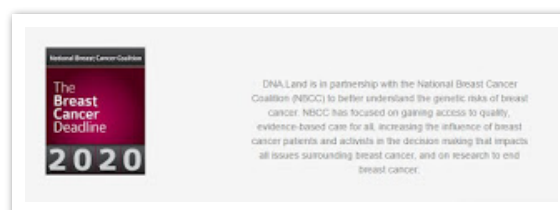
Posted by [Annette](#) at [1:22 PM](#)    [2 comments:](#)    

Monday, October 12, 2015

## Has Our Mozabite Gone To DNALand?



I've been trying out the Beta version of DNA Land and, a new site devoted to scientific genetic research. It also provides some of the same features as the DNA testing companies; such as ethnicity results and matching for those upload their raw data file.

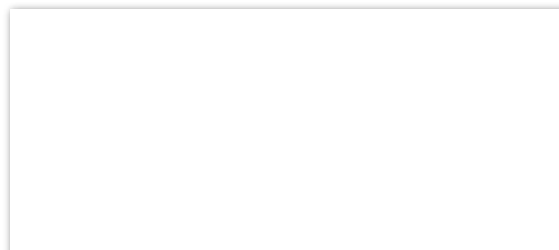


Sounds like a very worthwhile project to contribute to. I encourage everyone (especially AncestryDNA customers) to contribute their raw data. Register and upload here <https://dna.land/> Full instructions on how to get your raw data, and how to upload it are provided after you register. It's free to use.

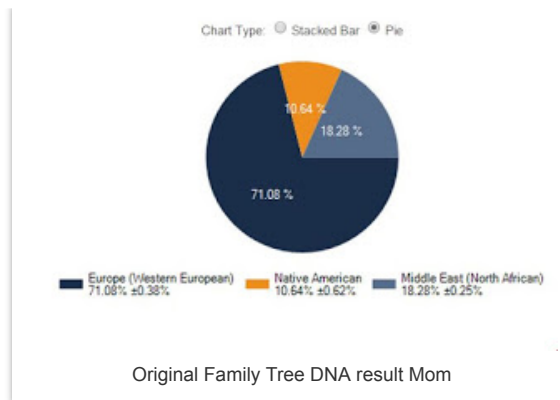
When I got my initial results back I thought the Ashkenazi on my father's side had finally been recognized. My Ashkenazi came out to be 17%. After uploading my mother's raw data I discovered that she tested as 18% Ashkenazi/Levantine. A cousin thought that this result might reflect our shared German line. Looking at our family tree our German line represents a small fraction of our ancestry. I don't see it adding up to very much percentage wise. Plus most cousins in this line aren't testing Ashkenazi. At 23andMe my Mom and I have less than 1% Ashkenazi. None of the other companies found any Ashkenazi for either of us (except AncestryDNA did find a trace amount for me only).

For background I should say my maternal Grandmother Graciela Del Castillo was Nicaraguan, and my maternal Grandfather Charles Forgey was primarily Scots-Irish with some German. 23andMe found that trace of Ashkenazi, which it placed on my Grandmother Graciela's side after, in my Mother's results, after phasing. I believe all of the Middle East and Ashkenazi results are from my maternal Grandmother, since these results don't show up in Forgey cousin admixture.

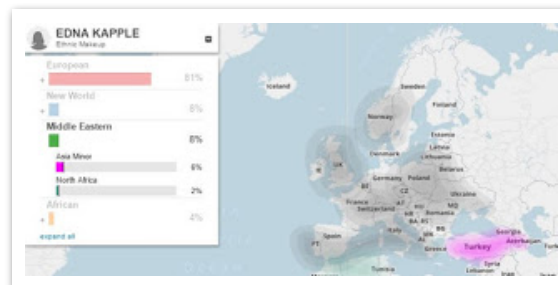
I remember back when my Mom and I first tested with Family Tree DNA we had high percentages of Middle Eastern. In my Mom's case it was said to be Mozabite. It's interesting that her Middle Eastern percentage (from 2013 FTDNA) matched her



Ashkenazi/Levantine at DNA Land percentage exactly, at 18%. Family Tree DNA has changed that result to 8%. With 6% Asia minor (quite ancient ancestry probably?) and 2% North African. The 6% Asia Minor probably accounts for some of the 18% Ashkenazi/Levantine. I believe the change in our results at Family Tree DNA is due to the fact they separated out the Mediterranean from the Middle Eastern. Sea travel in the Mediterranean resulted in a great deal of mixing of peoples along the coastline. Also my Spanish ancestors likely lived in the Arabian occupied area of Spain. Spain also had a large Jewish population, which may account for a portion of the results? The Ashkenazi/Levantine results for my Mom and I would not trace to Eastern and Central Europe as shown on the map provided by DNA Land. They are probably tracing back to the Middle East and Asia Minor; farther back in time. I think that Family Tree DNA's 8 percent Middle Eastern is close to correct.



Since DNA Land is in early Beta the percentages might change? I have a feeling Mediterranean roots are difficult to untangle, and are mixed with North African and Middle Eastern. Our Mediterranean percentages are all over the place.



Looking at my Mom's Native American percentage prediction at DNA Land it looks correct. Native American is much easier to distinguish than some other admixtures.

I'm hoping DNA Land will provide information regarding the populations they are using to come up with the percentages? That would be helpful.

PS Spent the day at the beach yesterday. Got sunburned. I'm a little zonked out today. Hope this makes sense?

Posted by **Annette** at **2:34 PM**

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)[My Pedigree Charts](#)[Research Goals](#)

Tuesday, October 25, 2016

## My Trip Back to My Ancestors Virginia Part 1



I went on another tour of ancestral states in late September and early October. I started off staying 5 days in Washington DC where I thoroughly enjoyed learning more about our shared American history. I also learned that the DAR is planning on creating their own subscription website, when I visited their library.

On my 5th day in Washington I joined a Trafalgar tour which took us to historical sites in Virginia, then through West Virginia and Maryland, to Pennsylvania to view more historical sites. Returning to DC we even passed through a portion of Delaware. More states than I've ever been through in my 53 years.

I was surprised by how close all of our destinations were on the East Coast. Driving from where I live near Los Angeles to San Francisco is about a 7 hour drive. Everything is much more spread out here. The route some of my ancestors took from Telford, Pennsylvania to the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia now takes about 4 and a half hours by car. If they walked that distance it would have taken around 80 hours. It probably took them a couple weeks to make their migration to Virginia.



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My ancestors who made their journey from Pennsylvania to Virginia were mainly Germans. Johannes Roller and his wife Anna. Lewis Zirkle and his mother Eva Bear. Johann Roush and his wife Susanna. They all settled in the Shenandoah Valley.

I also have Scots-Irish ancestors who initially settled in Pennsylvania and migrated through Virginia to Tennessee, namely Andrew Forgey and Margaret Reynolds. I believe Andrew and Margaret likely did live in Virginia for a few years, in the 1770's before settling in Tennessee around 1780. Andrew's brother Alexander Forgey died in Virginia.

The Browning family migrated from Maryland, through Virginia, to Tennessee around 1790.

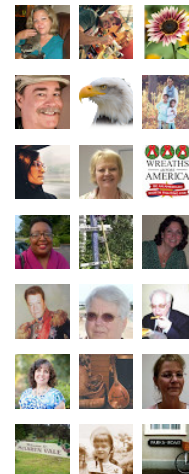
I'm not sure about the origins of two other Virginia ancestral families. My Wray family settled early in Virginia. The associated Thurman family was probably in Virginia in the 1600's.

As we made our way from Washington DC to Colonial Williamsburg I kept my eyes on the landscape which is so different from dry California. I've never seen so many trees in my life.

Our first stop was Mt. Vernon the home of our first President George Washington. Gorgeous location and beautiful home. I really enjoyed my visit. I thought about the fact some in our family have speculated that our Shenandoah ancestors may have seen Washington as he surveyed near their property.



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## About Me



**Annette**

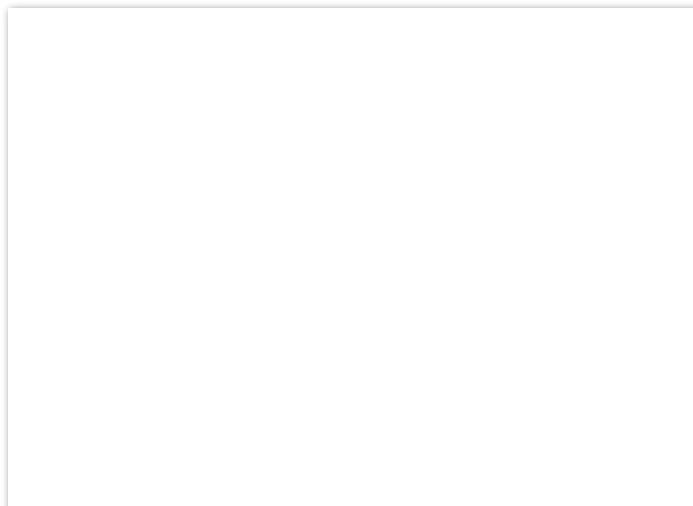
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## Feedjit



Above George and Martha Washington's Tomb.

The slave burial ground is **being excavated** as you can see below, in order to determine how many slaves are buried there, and exactly where the graves are.





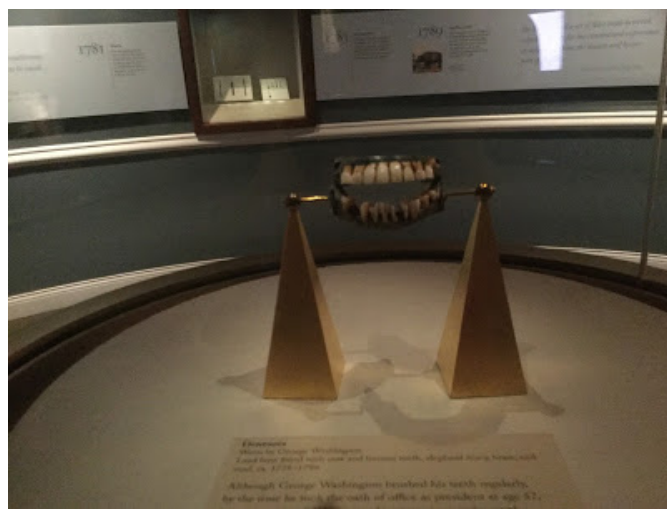
Slave burial ground excavation

Another part of the slave burial ground.



Of course I had to take a look at Washington's famous false teeth.





After spending a few hours at Mt. Vernon we headed to Yorktown. We spent a couple of hours at a Revolutionary War living history museum. Interesting to see how muskets were loaded and fired. I would have liked to have spent some time in Yorktown itself. That was one of the problems with this tour. It was a very good tour, but we went to a couple recreated sites instead of the original sites. I was going to ask about whether there is a list of Revolutionary War soldiers who were at Yorktown, but forgot. William McPike was thought to have served at Yorktown.



Traveling to Yorktown we passed through New Kent County. I'm still trying to establish descent from Richard Thurmond who lived in New Kent County in the early 1700's.

	Acres
Thorp, Tho.	200
Thurmond [Thurman] Rich <sup>d</sup>	131½
Tucker, Tho.	700
Turner, James	50
Thompson, James	100

1704 Quit Rent Rolls New Kent County



We headed for Williamsburg to check into our hotel after the Yorktown tour. We headed to Colonial Williamsburg as a group for dinner at a tavern that evening. Nice ending to a very nice day.







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Posted by [Annette](#) at [8:40 PM](#)    [No comments:](#)    

Sunday, September 11, 2016

## STR's And YFull

The STR values finally came in for Roger Forgey (descendant of Andrew Forgey and Margaret Reynolds). The STR values provided through the [BigY](#) test, and [YFull](#), are said to be less reliable than the original FTDNA markers tests. The Big Y was not designed to be a marker test. It's designed to identify SNP's. Since our terminal SNP at this time is so old, about 800 years old, it isn't very helpful. I see more potential in the STRs. Although if we had a closer cousin tester to Roger at Y-Full we would get a closer terminal SNP. Sounds like a combination of STR's and SNP's gives you an idea of how far back your common male ancestor lived? Still trying to understand all this.

I had hoped I could compare Roger's 37 marker test with Craig's 67 marker test. I was able to compare more markers; 61 to be exact. This does help. All matched except 3. Another mismatch was found on a marker in the 67 marker range. The other two were in the 37 marker range. This means they still remain close matches. They probably share a common male ancestor back in the 1600's, as we already know from our paper trail.

I will upgrade my Uncle's test to the Big Y when there is a sale. That should help.

Right now Roger Forgey has 4 close matches on the STRs. Three of the four are Fergusons. The one is not in the Ferguson group, and doesn't have any surname posted. This could be a Stewart? This result makes me think the STR's though more prone to error with this particular test, are accurate enough to establish which matches are closest in time. We believe Forgey

is a variant of Ferguson, and these results would seem to point in that direction. Matching up 400 STR's even if a few may be off by a digit would be great.

Marker	User Value	Match Value	Match %
1	12	12	100%
2	15	15	100%
3	10	10	100%
4	11	11	100%
5	13	13	100%
6	14	14	100%
7	16	16	100%
8	17	17	100%
9	18	18	100%
10	19	19	100%
11	20	20	100%
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32	41	41	100%
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333	342	342	100%
334	343	343	100%
335	344	344	

The STR's look like this:

Paternal Ancestor Name	Country	Haplogroup	DY5393	DY5390	DY5391	DY5385	DY5386	DY5389	DY5392	DY5388	DY5459	DY5458	DY5454	DY5447	DY5437	DY5448	DY5464	DY5460	YCAII	Y-GATA-H4	DY5407	DY5376	CDY	DY5442	DY5531							
Oregon/Forgy Haplo Group Share Common Ancestor																																
Samuel Forgry, b. 1726 and d. 1770	Ireland	I-M223	14	24	15	10	15-16	11	13	11	14	12	30																			
Samuel Forgry 1726 - 1770	France	I-L126	14	24	15	10	15-16	11	13	11	14	12	30	16	8-9	11	11	26	15	20	27	11-11-14-16	11	10	19-21	14	14	19	18	31-37	12	10
Andrew Forgry 1732-1809	Unknown Origin	I-M223	14	24	15	11	15-16	11	13	11	14	12	30	16	8-9	11	11	26	15	20	27	11-11-14-16	11	10	19-21	14	14	20	18	31-37	12	10
Andrew Forgry d. 1820	Unknown Origin	I-L126	14	24	15	11	15-16	11	13	11	14	12	30	16	8-9	11	11	26	15	20	27	11-11-14-16	11	10	19-21	14	14	19	18	31-37	12	10
Andrew Forgry 1732 - 1809	Ireland	I-BY3819	14	24	15	11	15-16	11	13	11	14	12	30	16	8-9	11	11	26	15	20	27	11-11-14-16	11	10	19-21	14	14	20	18	31-37	12	10
Andrew Forgry 1732-1809	Unknown Origin	I-M223	14	24	15	11	15-16	11	13	11	14	12	30	16	8-9	11	11	26	15	20	27	11-11-14-16	11	10	19-21	14	14	20	18	31-37	12	11
Mr. Samuel Forgry, d. 1770	Northern Ireland-L126		14	24	15	11	15-16	11	13	11	14	12	30	16	8-9	11	11	26	15	20	27	11-11-14-17	11	10	19-21	15	14	20	18	31-37	12	10
Samuel Forgry, b. 1726 and d. 1770	Ireland	I-M223	14	24	15	11	15-16	11	13	11	14	12	30	16	8-9	11	11	26	15	20	27	11-11-14-17	11	10	19-21	15	14	20	18	31-37	12	10

The rows represent those tested. The columns are the values on each marker. The value numbers need to be exactly the same to match on that marker.

Upgrading another Forgry test to the Big Y will be helpful. It is very expensive so I wouldn't do it unless there is a good sale. Comparing 400 STR's could prove to be very helpful.

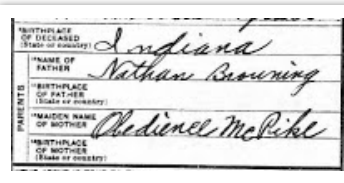
Posted by [Annette](#) at [5:21 PM](#)    No comments:   

Thursday, September 1, 2016

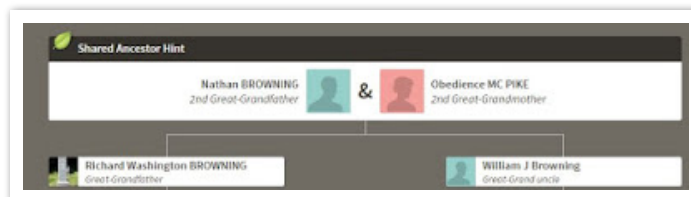
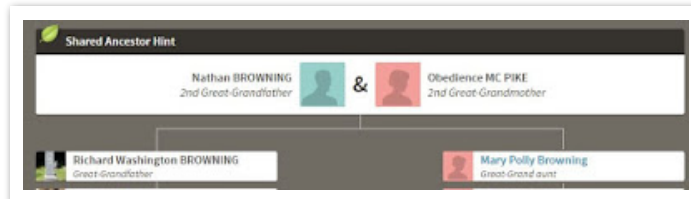
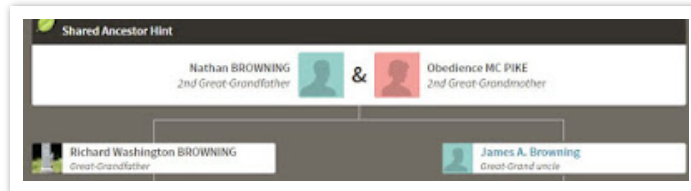
# Strengthening The McPike And Browning Lines, Indiana and Tennessee



I made out and mailed the "First Families Of Tennessee" application. As I was doing that I was thinking how do we know the Nathan Browning in Roger Browning's 1828 Greene County, TN Will is our Nathan? Our Nathan in Indiana is definitely our progenitor because he and his wife Obedience McPike are named as parents on a couple Browning death certificates and a marriage certificate. I was thinking how would I prove the Nathan in Greene County, Tennessee was the same person as our Nathan in Indiana? This is a common problem the farther back we trace the family. How do we establish someone with the same name in another state is actually our ancestor? It's been a while sense I've looked at the Browning line. For my purposes I was convinced the Brownings in Greene County were the same, and they migrated to Indiana.

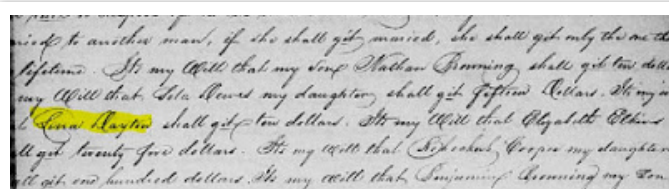


We are definitely blood relatives of Nathan Browning and Obedience McPike. My late mother has many DNA matches with descendants of this couple. Here are a few of the lines we match:



Why do we believe Nathan Browning and wife Obedience McPike originally came from Tennessee and specifically the Greene County area? We have the Roger Browning Will stating he has a son named Nathan. There were several Nathan Brownings in the US who were contemporaries of our Nathan Browning. Can we be sure which one is ours? Looking at Census records of the children of Nathan Browning (Nathan died before the 1850 Census contained birthplaces, as did his wife) the older children state they were born in Tennessee. This would support Roger Browning as being Nathan's father since there were no other Nathan Brownings in the early Tennessee records.

Probably the strongest supporting circumstantial evidence is the fact Lina Dayton, named as Roger's daughter in his 1828 will, ends up with her husband Joseph in Pleasant Run Township, Lawrence County, Indiana. The same township Nathan Browning and Obedience McPike lived in.



Roger Browning's 1828 Will Greene County, TN naming daughter Lina Dayton

How do we know Lina Dayton, named in her husband Joseph Dayton's will, is the same Lina Dayton named in her father Roger's will? A very strong piece of evidence appears in her husband Joseph Dayton's will. One of Lina and Joseph's children is named Browning Dayton. We have to thank Joseph and Lina for solidifying the Browning connection by naming a son Browning!

Joseph's. It is my will and I do order that in the first place all my just debts and funeral charges to be paid and satisfied. Item I will and bequeath unto my beloved wife Lina all my land together with my houses hold goods and moveable property as long as she shall remain my widow. And provided she marries; my executor shall expose all moveable property to public sale according to the law of this state; and my wife Lina to receive an equal part with the rest of my heirs namely Ezekiel, Polly, Helmer, Hannah, Nancy, Lewis, Rachel, Joseph, Thomas & Browning Daytons. I will to my beloved daughter Polly and Edwin Todd the sum of two dollars each to be raised and levied out of my estate. Of any of the heirs now living at home with me marries before the distribution of the property they

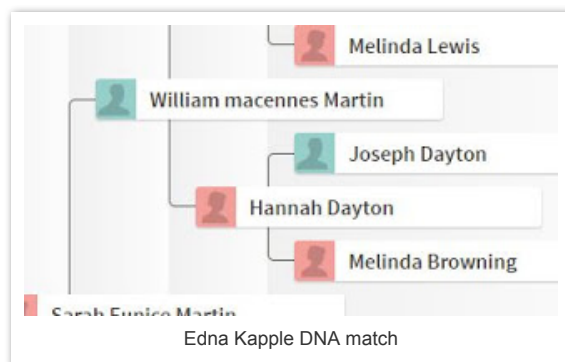
Joseph Dayton's will Lawrence County, Indiana

To make these connections even firmer Nathan Browning and Obedience McPike had a daughter named Melinda. Lina's name was actually Melinda, this niece appears to have been named after her.

14	1773/1773	Melinda Browning	37	m	Tennessee	9016	N.C.
15		Melinda	33	f	Tennessee		
16		John B.	19	m	Tennessee		
17		Henry B.	17	f	Tennessee		

Here we have Melinda Browning/Ramsey 1850 Census  
States she was born in Tennessee

My mother matched a descendant of Melinda "Lina" Browning/Dayton at AncestryDNA, which provides even more support for our Browning pedigree (we also match a descendant of Roger's daughter Sala Dewes, she was also named in his will).



I'm always on the lookout for more information. It would be great if a document specifically stated the Brownings of Lawrence County, Indiana came from Greene County, Tennessee. Haven't found a document with that direct statement yet. The evidence we have is strong anyway.

William McPike is the only McPike I can find on early records for Tennessee. All of Obedience McPike/Browning's children agree that she was born in Tennessee about 1789. Obedience also named a son William. I'm confident William is her father. I'll keep looking for more evidence however.

Everyone seems to have William McPike's wife, and Obedience's mother, as Obedience Holloway. I can't find any documentation to support this? Apparently William McPike and William Holloway built a road in Washington County, according to a minutes book for that county. Not sure what sort of document states that William's wife was a Holloway? I do find a William Holloway on an 1805 Taxlist for Greene County, TN. If she was a Holloway William



may have been her brother?

I'm still trying to figure out where in Greene, Sullivan, and Washington counties the Brownings and McPikes lived. I need to collect up the deeds. It appears William McPike purchased land 140 acres of land from Shadrack Hale (Washington County Deeds book 4, page 23 July 20, 1789). Since William McPike appears on a Greene County tax list in 1783 (Nolichucky Settlers) it appears he was living on land in Washington bordering Greene County? On February 8, 1796 William McPike buys 250 acres of land from William Rosberry. It was located on the Limestone Fork of Lick Creek in Greene County (book 2, page 445 Greene County Deeds). He sold this land December 28, 1796 (book 6, page 156 Greene County, TN Deeds). The following year on Christmas day William bought 220 acres on Tory creek (now Long Creek?) in Cocke County, TN. I don't have any of the actual deeds. I am hoping the actual deeds contain more family information?

As for Roger Browning I don't have any deeds or deed index information. I had associated him with Greene County more than his in-law William McPike. Now it appears William McPike was in Greene County in 1783 with the other Nolichucky Settlers. Roger doesn't appear in Greene County until around 1800. Before that he is living in Sullivan County, where his likely brother Amsey Browning also lived. He first purchased land in Sullivan County in 1789. Apparently the deed says the land is on Kendrick Creek? I'm not sure where his land in Greene County was, but it may have been near his son's land on Caney Branch?

I've written to the North Carolina Archives to get a copy of William McPike's Revolutionary War file. I think it may just be a voucher? I thought I saw somewhere that he hired a substitute? I may be completely wrong? According to a 1919 article from DAR magazine all of the able bodied men living in Washington County in 1780 would likely have fought at the Battle of Kings Mountain, and some would have went on to Yorktown. The McPike's seem to believe William did serve at both of these locations. There was another William McPike from Pennsylvania who was indeed at Yorktown. Not sure if two William McPike's were at Yorktown?



THE following tax list is perhaps the oldest county tax assessment of the state in existence. The original, like many court records of value to genealogists, has been carelessly misplaced or destroyed and is no longer accessible. With few exceptions the men whose names appear on the list were Revolutionary soldiers and patriots. It is impossible in these short notes to mention but a few of the early families. They may, however, be classed as those residing in Washington County during the Revolutionary War, and those who emigrated to the settlements at the close of hostilities.

Washington County, 1783

1919 DAR magazine

Naming patterns, Roger Browning's 1828 will in Greene County, TN, documents naming the birthplaces of the Browning family of Indiana, and DNA have been important in establishing our Browning lineage and roots in Tennessee.

I'll be collecting up the actual deeds, and hopefully getting a copy of the Revolutionary War document or documents soon.



Visiting the Sycamore Shoals Museum sparked my interest in finding out whether William McPike fought at King's mountain

Posted by [Annette](#) at [6:01 PM](#) [2 comments:](#) 

Saturday, August 27, 2016

## Proving A Tennessee First Families Line To 1796

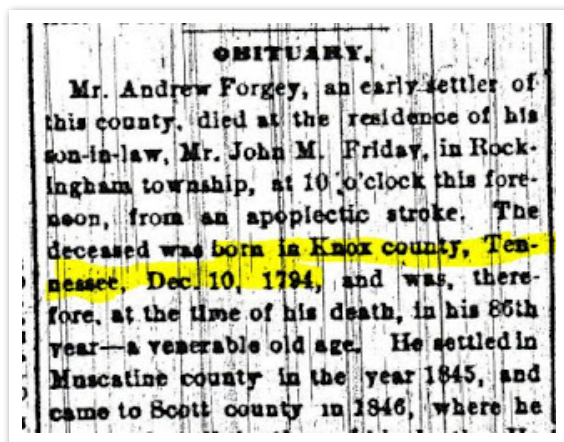


I just returned from the "[First Families of Tennessee Reunion & Jubilee](#)" 2016 in Knoxville. I had a wonderful time! A distant cousin provided great company, and drove me to all the family sites. Nice since I don't know anyone else in the area. I attended the conference and learned a great deal about Tennessee and Virginia research that I didn't know. I will have to do research in Virginia Civil Parish records now. The yearly property line processioning records could be useful for me. Also I need to find out who the Forgey family landlord was in

Co. Louth Ireland in hopes his records contain some family information. The Scots-Irish presentation was outstanding.

I would like to join "[First Families of Tennessee](#)" and get the certificate. I'm not sure which line contains the best proof. I will read through the instructions for acceptance carefully before submitting an ancestral line. I have two, out of 3, lines which should qualify. One line is my Roger Browning line. My other line would be the Andrew Forgey line. The Forgey family was in Tennessee by 1780.

**Here is the proof for the Andrew Forgey ancestral lineage:**



The obituary is proof my ancestor Andrew was in Tennessee in 1794. Although probably not the best proof since this is a secondary source.

Circumstantial evidence points to a Hugh Forgey being Andrew's father. All other Forgey couples in Knox County have identified children. Hugh Forgey and Catherine Fisher are the only couple living in Knox County at the time of Andrew's birth without identified children. Also, Andrew had a brother Archibald who appears to have been named after Hugh's father-in-law Archibald Fisher. And my ancestor Hugh Forgey, Andrew's son, appears to be named after his grandfather Hugh Forgey. My Andrew born 1794 would have also been named after his Forgey grandfather. Hugh's name first appears in Tennessee records in 1786, when he signs a petition for the division of Sullivan County. Hugh's parents were Andrew Forgey and Margaret Reynolds. Andrew Forgey was granted land in Sullivan County in 1780.

Every US Census Andrew Forgey, born 1794, appeared on states he was born in Tennessee

41	41	Andrew Forgey	1794	Tennessee	
42	42	Elizabeth	1794	Tennessee	
43	43	Belahine	1794	Tennessee	
44	44	Clark	1794	Tennessee	
45	45	Baker	1794	Tennessee	
46	46	Levine	1794	Tennessee	
47	47	Samuel H. Mitchell	1794	Tennessee	

A Forgey family bible lists my ancestor Hugh Forgey as Andrew Forgey, born 1794's, son. (it does not date to the time period, but instead contains entries transcribed from another older family bible along with contemporary mid to late 1800's entries)

Andrew Forgey was born Dec 10<sup>th</sup> 1794  
 Anna Goller his wife . . . July 1<sup>st</sup> 1799  
 Hugh Forgey was born Mar 15<sup>th</sup> 1805  
 John Forgey . . . Sept 10<sup>th</sup> 1810  
 Eleanor Forgey . . . Apr 2<sup>nd</sup> 1820  
 Anna Forgey . . . July 7<sup>th</sup> 1820  
 James Forgey . . . July 26<sup>th</sup> 1825  
 Betsey Ann Forgey was born Oct 25 1827  
 Nancy Forgey was born Jan 14<sup>th</sup> 1830  
 Elias Forgey . . . Mar 4<sup>th</sup> 1832  
 Andrew Jackson Forgey was born Sept 8<sup>th</sup> 1835  
 Jacob Goller Forgey . . . July 7<sup>th</sup> 1837  
 Geo. Washington Forgey . . . Sept 10<sup>th</sup> 1840

The above bible entry is proof of descent from my ancestor Hugh Forgey, son of Andrew.

The next link in the chain to myself would be Hugh's son William Wray Forgey. I have Hugh's will and a Census record to prove this link.

In the name of God, Amen,  
 I Hugh Forgey of Jackson County, Indiana, do  
 Make and publish this my last Will and testament  
 proving all others by me made,  
 I give devise and bequeath to my beloved  
 daughter Sophia Cross, and Nancy Ann Jackson, the  
 equally divided between them, the following described real  
 Estate, to wit: The South East quarter of the North West  
 quarter of Section three Township 14 North Range  
 four East, containing forty acres more or less, situ-  
 ate in Hartsville Township, Jackson County, Indiana,  
 Also the North West quarter of the North East quar-  
 ter of Section eight Township 14 North Range four  
 East, containing forty acres more or less, and  
 the South West quarter of the North East quarter of  
 same Section Township and Range, situate in  
 Brownstown Township, Jackson County, Indiana,  
 the foregoing bequest to be in full of their interest of the  
 real Estate of which Nancy Ann Jackson is  
 the sole and lawful wife Elizabeth J. Forgey and my  
 son William Forgey and my daughter Sarah Ann Forgey  
 give them and bequest all the residue of the real  
 Estate and is signed in the presence of

1820	1830	1840	1850	1860	1870
752 905	Forgey Hugh W. 14 60	1	Clayton	1	Clayton
	Is Elizabeth 14 25	1	Anderson	1	Anderson
	Is John 14 25	1	Anderson	1	Anderson
	Is William 14 25	1	Anderson	1	Anderson
753 106	Forgey William W. 14 22	1	Clayton	1	Clayton
	Is Sarah 14 22	1	Anderson	1	Anderson

William Wray Forgey's son Charles Lynn Forgey was my Grandfather. I would establish the link between Charles and his father with the 1910 US Census.

1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960
44 22	Forgey William	Head	W. 44 22		
	Forgey B.	Daughter	F. W. 19 8		
	Clayton	Son	M. W. 16 8		
	Edgar R.	Daughter	F. W. 13 8		
	Charles L.	Son	M. W. 11 8		
	Claude R.	Son	M. W. 7 8		



I would establish the relationship between Charles L. Forgey and his daughter, my mother, Edna with the 1940 Census.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	248	375	0	2000	40	FORGEY, CHARLES S	HEAD	M	W	43	M	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA
2						GARRELA	WIFE	F	W	43	M	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA
3						EDNA	DAUGHTER	F	N	17	S	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA
4						GRACE	DAUGHTER	F	N	15	S	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA
5						DOROTHY	DAUGHTER	F	N	11	S	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA
6						CHARLES JR	SON	M	N	10	S	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA
7						CECIL	SON	M	N	10	S	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA
8	921	344	0	5200	40	ANDERSON, CARL S	HEAD	M	W	34	M	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA
9						HENA	WIFE	F	N	24	M	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA

I would use my own birth certificate to prove my relationship to my mother.

## Proving the Browning line would begin with Roger Browning:

The East Tennessee Historical Society already has an approved descendant of Roger Browning. I don't need to prove Roger was in Tennessee prior to 1796, since this is already established. The First Family descendant of Roger used a 1789 deed for Sullivan County, TN as proof.

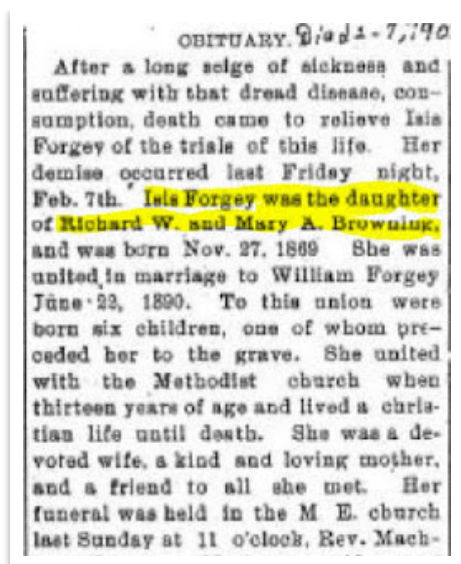
I would use Roger Browning's will to prove Nathan was his son:

part of my Estate. Next I give and Bequeath unto my eldest son William Browning the sum of five shillings currency. Next I give and Bequeath unto Edward, Jonathan, Benjamin, Nathan and Sonnia Browning my loving ones all the residue of my Estate both Real and Personal to them their heirs and assigns to be equally divided among them so that each of them shall have an equal part of it and also

My Ancestor Richard Washington Browning was a son of Nathan. I would use Richard's death certificate to prove that relationship. I can't find this document, unfortunately, so I will order another copy.

I would use my Great-Grandmother Isis Browning-Forgey's Obituary to prove her relationship to her father.





If that isn't enough I also have Isis Browning-Forgey's death certificate.

Indiana State Board of Health. 113

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH.

County of Carroll State of Indiana

Decd. Isis Browning-Forgey

Age 30 Sex Female Color White

DATE OF BIRTH Nov 27 1869 PLACE OF BIRTH Carroll Co. Ind

DATE OF DEATH Feb 7 1900 PLACE OF DEATH Carroll Co. Ind

CAUSE OF DEATH Pulmonary tuberculosis

Physician's Name Callahan

Signature Isis Browning-Forgey

Signature Richard Browning

Signature Callahan

Signature Henry

From here I would use the 1910 Census, 1940 Census, and my birth certificate.

## William McPike:

Another early Tennessee settler ancestor of mine would be William McPike. I'm finding several problems with some of the research I've found posted about him. There does appear to be a payment voucher for him located at the North Carolina archives. The payment was made out to someone living in the Tennessee area, voucher #59, folio 2, special cert #3437. It is most likely for my ancestor William McPike. He is said to have fought at the Revolutionary Battle of King's Mountain. That is possible, but I thought I read somewhere that he hired a substitute? Also several people have stated he was at the battle of Yorktown. I believe that was a different William McPike. That man was fighting in a Pennsylvania regiment, not a North Carolina regiment.

If I were to use William McPike as my "First Families of Tennessee" ancestor I have no idea how I could prove my ancestor Obedience McPike's relationship, other than some circumstantial evidence? It looks like a number of William McPike's descendants have applied for membership in the DAR. I could order a packet of supporting documents from the DAR to see how William's children were proven?

I will probably join using my Roger Browning ancestor since my mother was most interested in the Browning line. I think she would approve.



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Posted by **Annette** at **10:51 AM**    No comments:    

Monday, June 20, 2016

## At A Standstill With Autosomal DNA

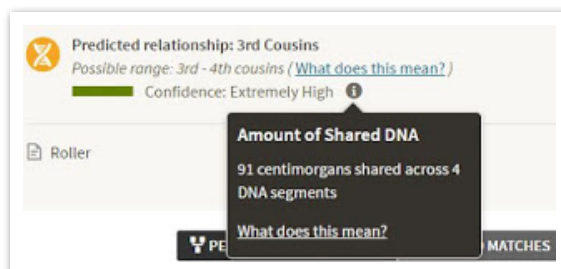
Don't mistake my post as criticism of autosomal DNA. It's a very useful test. However to make use of it for genealogy purposes we need to map segments. If you are looking for your parents, siblings, 1st cousins mapping isn't necessary. Adoptees can get results without mapping segments. Genealogists, generally, are not looking for close relatives.

The problem I've run up against is the DNA testing company with the most good matches doesn't provide exact segment information. Everyone knows this is AncestryDNA. What I have managed to do is reconfirm, over and over, that I am indeed related by blood to several paper trail ancestors.

23andMe isn't much better. They have a great chromosome browser, and now they have a great common match feature, but they don't have a way to post a tree at their site. No trees means not much progress using their site. I have, however, been able to collect some segments for my DNA mapping, which sure beats AncestryDNA. Family Tree DNA is a bust now too, because they have failed to attract enough testers. I haven't gotten a good match with them in a long time. I have in the past been able to collect some important segment data. Now that Ancestry is dominating the market for DNA testing Family Tree DNA seems to have had a steep decline in the number of testers.

Everyone says just ask your AncestryDNA matches to compare at GEDmatch. I have not been lucky enough to have many agree. My top matches, generally, have not to date agreed to upload to GEDmatch. Without being able to map my chromosomes with large segments from 2nd to 3rd cousins it's impossible to confirm where the smaller segments come from. I could put together a great chromosome map if only AncestryDNA somehow provided a chromosome browser. I would love to resolve a brickwall on my Campbell line using autosomal DNA, but can't without a chromosome map. Establishing exactly which segments relate to which families is critical to success with autosomal DNA. This can't always be done if, for instance, you are from an endogamous population. I do have ancestors who were French Canadian. This population is very interrelated. The French Canadian segments are useful anyway. They tell me these segments came from my maternal Great-Great Grandfather. Aside from the French Canadian line my family isn't endogamous.

Recently I'm noticing some matches sharing substantial amounts of DNA at AncestryDNA, such a 91 cM share. I know exactly how we are related since the match has a tree posted. I'm hoping that this match agrees to upload to GEDmatch. This alone won't be very helpful, however, without many more matches also sharing their segment information. It's the aggregate segment data that is so powerful when it comes to using autosomal.



AncestryDNA cites the danger of matches discovering inherited disease information about a match through segment data as the reason they will not provide exact segment info. I'm afraid without the exact segment information the test isn't very useful for genealogists.

AncestryDNA really painted themselves into a corner by not providing the ability to share segments early on. They've decided to ignore this important tool and provide New Ancestor Discoveries and Circles. I've written in my blog about how a 4th cousin and I shared some of the same NAD's. This line has a brickwall too, so I was very interested in the origins of the NAD matches. I tried to workout how we were all possibly related. Those NAD's have now

been removed by AncestryDNA. I guess we aren't likely related after all, or at least within the genealogical time frame. This waste of time could have been better spent mapping chromosomes.

I'll keep trying to persuade AncestryDNA matches to upload to GEDmatch. Otherwise I will remain at a standstill.

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Posted by **Annette** at **11:23 AM**

No comments:



Tuesday, May 10, 2016

## To Phase Or Not To Phase? Plus, She's Back?



My to Quack or not to Quack souvenir from my recent vacation

### That is the question...

Is the phasing and filtering AncestryDNA does worth the extra processing? I've wavered about this for years. It sounds like a great idea. On a theoretical basis it is. In practice not so much. The phasing AncestryDNA does attempts to use haplotypes to separate the DNA we inherit from each parent. The results are also filtered in order to remove matches who share population segments. When I listened to an Ancestry representative explain the haplotype method she did say there was an error rate with the phasing. Some haplotypes haven't been encountered before. Removing population segments, with filtering, isn't helpful for me since these segments at least tell me which ethnic group a segment comes from.

A recent update to the AncestryDNA product has many discussing the merits of this company's approach to matching. An issue was brought up at the Facebook ISOGG group which I hadn't noticed. Before the recent AncestryDNA update parents and children were said to share up to 90 segments of DNA. According to the other companies around 30 segments are shared. This vast discrepancy is due to the fact Ancestry's phasing and filtering chops up segments. The recent update has brought the number of shared segments down to the 50's. Still many more than the other companies.

I've posted about the fact that during AncestryDNA's previous update, when Timber was introduced, a 3rd cousin went missing. I checked to see if she was returned immediately after the update finished. I didn't see her listed as a 3rd or 4th cousin so I assumed she wasn't returned with this update. Going through hints yesterday I found her. She has returned. She is listed as a 5th to 8th cousin now. What does this tell me? First of all the prediction is off.

Secondly it tells me the AncestryDNA product is still in a state of flux and who knows what will happen with future updates? Apparently someone can match you today, and may be removed in the future, just to possibly be returned somewhere down the line?

I didn't find that any close matches were removed this time. I did find several distant cousin matches had been removed. It's possible these matches do match DNA wise? AncestryDNA states it is possible good matches were removed.

	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
15th - 8th c YES			Daniel Morris Tabitha Franklin County, VA				
15th - 8th c YES			Morris				
15th - 8th c YES			French Canadian				
15th - 8th c YES			Kinsaid Rheg				
15th - 8th c YES			Owens				
15th - 8th c YES							
15th - 8th c YES			Wray				
15th - 8th c YES			Nicaragua				
15th - 8th c YES			browning				
15th - 8th c YES			Another Jacob and Eve match through Jacob				
15th - 8th c YES			French Canadian				
15th - 8th c YES			Lamy Quebec				
15th - 8th c YES							
15th - 8th c YES			Hungary				
15th - 8th c YES			lanaitre				
15th - 8th c YES			French Canadian				
15th - 8th c YES			Zirkle/Bear Catherine				
15th - 8th c YES			Callahan				
15th - 8th c YES			French Canadian				
15th - 8th c YES			Roller/Zirkle (Sarah)				
15th - 8th c YES			Zirkle/Bear (Margaret)				

I would rather see AncestryDNA do away with the phasing and filtering. Shuffling matches in and out of our lists doesn't make any sense. It's just confusing. Does the phasing and filtering improve match results? Not in my case. Predictions at the 3rd cousin range and beyond are impossible to get exactly right. I'm not even sure if phasing and filtering helps improve predictions for closer cousins? What it can do is remove good matches.

One thing is certain, every time AncestryDNA updates results they get publicity. As someone once said "there's no such thing as bad publicity."

Posted by **Annette** at **9:25 AM** **2 comments:** 

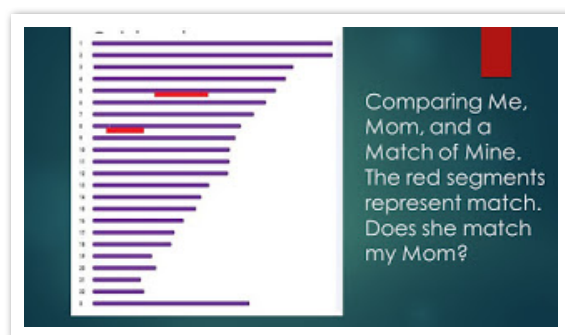
Wednesday, April 6, 2016

## Recap Of Sunday's SL Discussion: Working With Segments

We've been having DNA discussions in the virtual world of Second Life (just consult the "Genealogists In Second Life" page at Facebook for more details). Our next discussion will be on Sunday May 1, 2016.

Here is a recap of our last meeting Sunday April 3, 2016.

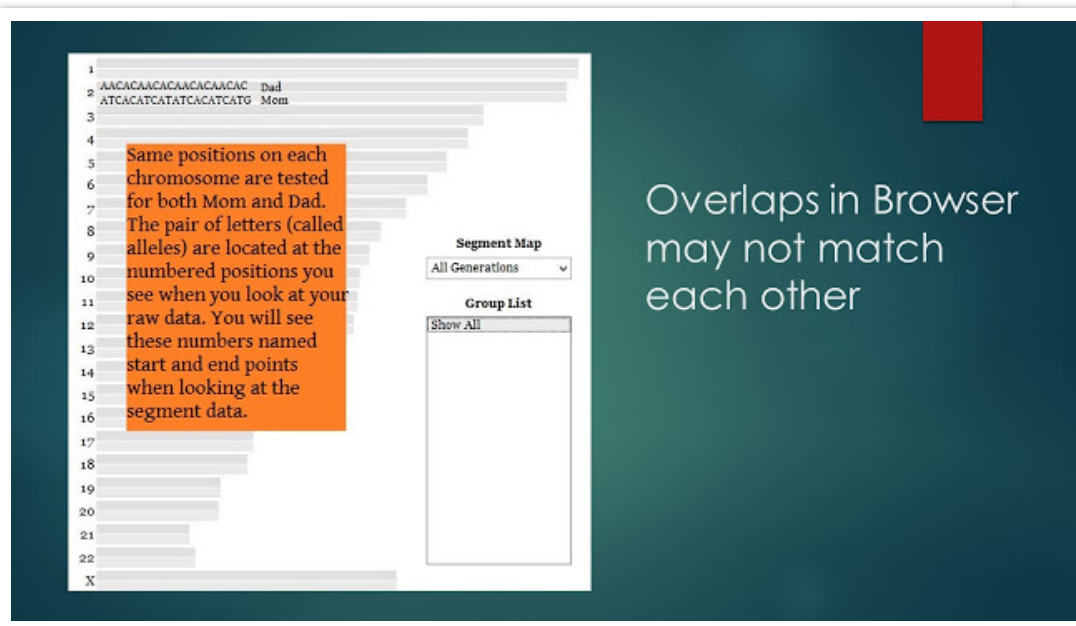
This slide shows a view from the 23andme chromosome browser



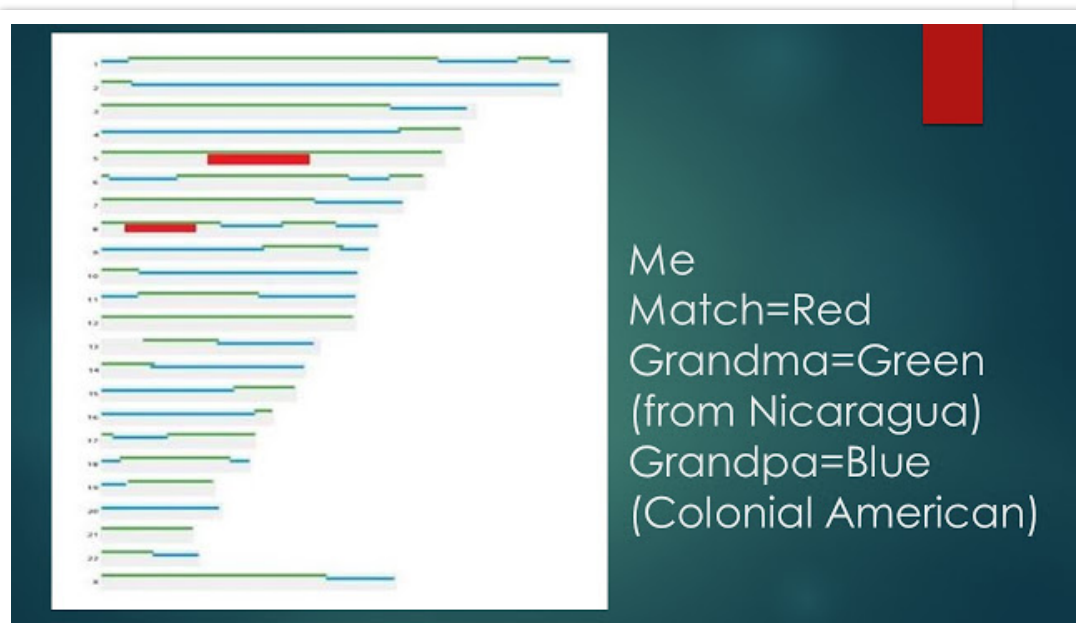
- The browser shows our 23 pairs of chromosomes. One row from our Mother the other from our Father
- It shows where my Mom, a match, and I share DNA.
- Mom shares from side to side on each chromosome (the purple lines).
- Match is represented by the red segments
- Does she match my Mom?
- We would check either my Mom or my matches match list and see if they match



- We would then check the chromosome browser to verify they match on the same chromosomes in the same place



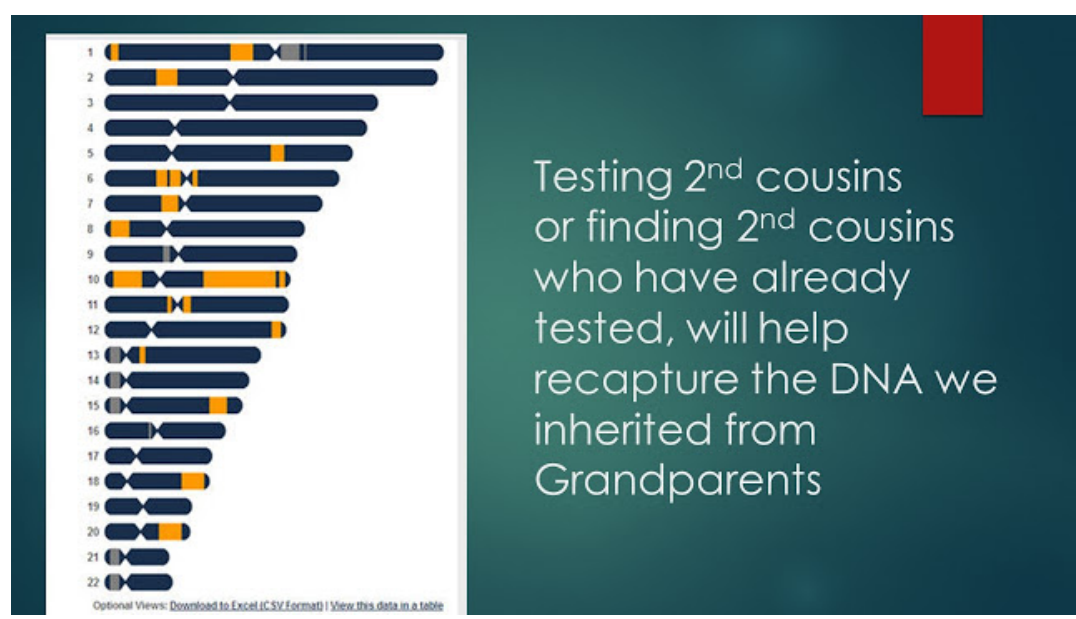
- Another view (above) of a chromosome browser shows the pair of 23 chromosomes, plus the X
- I've listed some alleles (i.e., A's, G's, C's, T's) which are used to determine who matches
- One line across each chromosome always represents a parent. The companies can't tell which alleles come from which parent. Only testing parents can work this out, in order to list the alleles separately and correctly for each parent. Without that it's up to software to figure this out
- AncestryDNA phases results without parents. This often produces good results, according to them. They acknowledge a small error rate
- The same positions are tested for each parent
- Because of that segments two, or more, matches may look like they match in the chromosome browser. You must know whether the match is a match on the paternal or maternal side to know whether overlapping segments represent a match
- I tested my mother so I can narrow down the possibilities



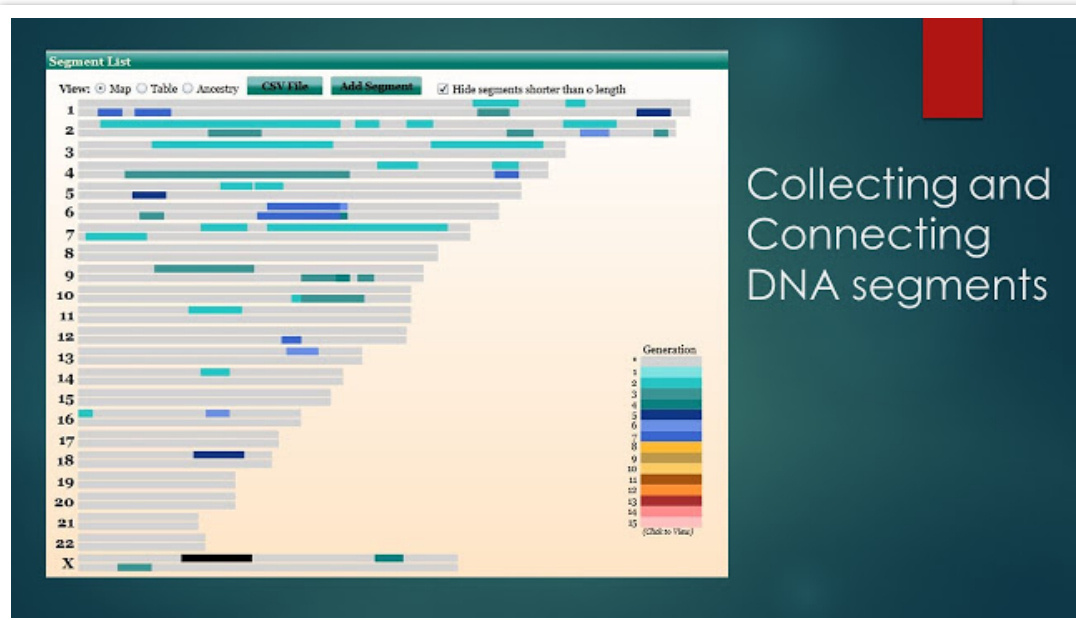
- I borrowed someone else's grandparents to demonstrate how having grandparents segments is useful in establishing IBD segments and finding a more precise relationship with matches.
- Here you can see the possible 3rd cousin match also has the same matching segments as she had with my mother. She matches my maternal grandmother on the same segments
- As it turns out she is also Nicaraguan. Just like my grandmother
- These segments are certainly IBD



- You can see (in the slide above) that the other set of grandparents don't share the same red segments. This confirms there is no match on the paternal side
- This view shows the segments that my grandparents gave me through my father. The side to side shares from parents are divided up by segments they got from their parents. Siblings receive different assortments of DNA from grandparents.
- Grandparents DNA is further segmented with DNA from their parents
- This chain of inherited DNA continues back in time, until we not longer share DNA with certain ancestors
- Notice here how the paternal grandparents segments fit together like puzzle pieces (above)



- If you don't have living grandparents you can recreate the segments your grandparents gave to you by testing and comparing segments with 2nd cousins
- There is also a way to test siblings to find start and end points for grandparents shares



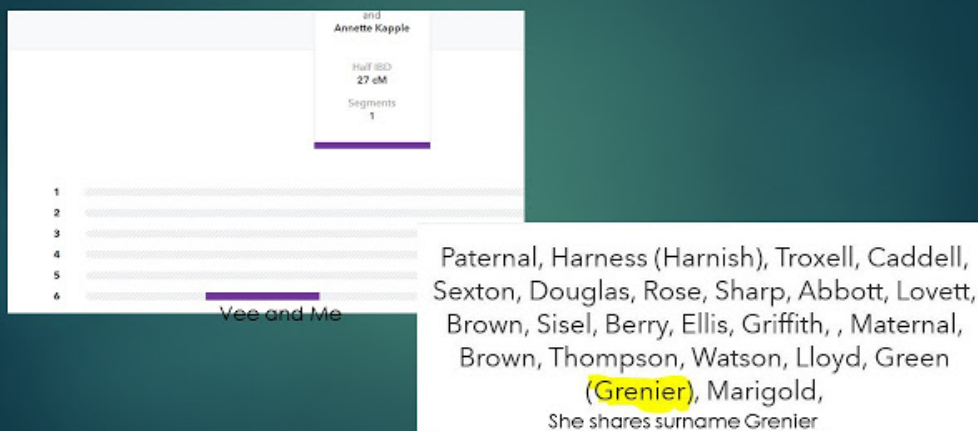
- Downloading segment data from Family Tree DNA , 23andMe, and GEDmatch allows you to compare segments from matches from all three places
- You can upload and compare the segments at third party sites such as Kitty's Chromosome Mapper. Or you can download a free app from [Genomate Pro](#) (good idea to donate too). This software will allow you to store and compare your segment match data.

## Triangulation

- ▶ What if we don't have many close relatives who have tested. We can compare our matches and see if we find places where several of our matches segments overlap. We can do this using the chromosome browsers at 23andMe or Family Tree DNA. It's actually best to upload data from the companies and GEDmatch to Genome Mate Pro where we can compare all matches. If we find an area where 3 or more matches share a segment and share an ancestor or and ancestral couple we have a triangulation. We can then name that segment after the corresponding family or ancestor. Using segments which are statistically likely to be IBD is essential if you don't have close relatives to establish a segment as IBD. According to Dr. Tim Janzen 15 cM, 2500 SNP, segments are more likely to be IBD.

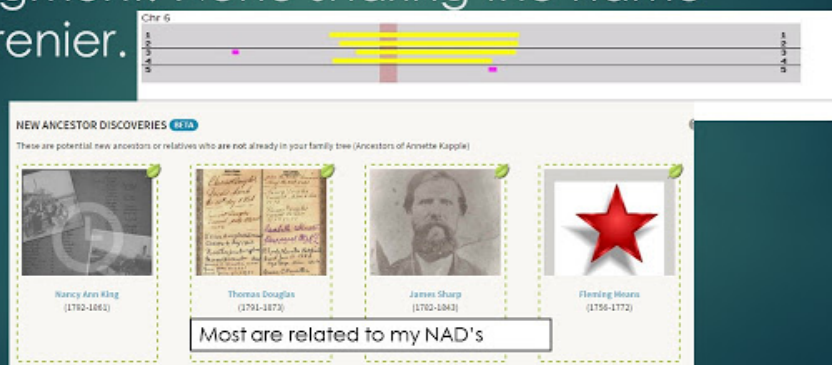
- Triangulation is useful for all testers. The definition of triangulation is having a matching or overlapping segment with two matches or more
- It's especially useful if you don't have close relatives who have tested. In such cases a good triangulation can establish a segment as identical by descent, or not a false match
- Triangulated shared segments, or overlaps, should overlap by at least 7 cM's
- When triangulating without establishing segments as identical by descent, using close relatives, it's best to use segments in the IBD range. According to Dr. Tim Janzen 15 cM and 2500 SNP segments are more likely to be IBD

## Vee and Other matches



- In September of 2015 Vee got in contact with me through 23andMe's messaging system. She asked me to look over her list of names, and said she had a tree on Ancestry. I determined the most likely connection was through the surname Grenier. I have French Canadian Ancestors with that surname. Her ancestors did not come to the US through Quebec, however. Instead they came from France to New York in the 1700's

Comparing at Genomatch Pro found more matches on same segment. None sharing the name Grenier.



- Last week I began using Genome Mate Pro. This app allows you to look at shared segments on each chromosome from various sources. I noticed Vee, my Paternal Aunt, a Paternal First Cousin, and a third cousin on the paternal side all matched on chromosome 6 in the same place. I found 2 others who also matched
- I had to dig a little to find trees for the two additional matches. When I compared everyone, except my 3rd cousin, and closer relatives, I found they all shared many of the same surnames, and all had Southern roots
- It also dawned on me that the names shared by these 3 common matches were also the surnames associated with all my NAD's
- Looking through the NAD's again I believe our common connection has something to do with the surname Douglas. I had first thought Troxell was the common surname, but one match in the NAD's doesn't share that surname. Still trying to work out our connection because I don't have Douglas on my tree?
- All of these matches share 25 to 32 cM segments, and around 8000 SNPs, on chromosome 6. This makes it nearly certain the shared segments are identical by descent

Someone at the discussion asked "Once you have verified your segment matches, did you then establish documentation through public records etc..?" Yes. You need to also compare documented trees to see how you might be related to a match. Unfortunately it's difficult to document trees at Family Tree DNA. Or maybe it's just not as straight forward? You can add stories and notes to your Family Tree DNA tree, which many of us, including me, haven't done.

We also discussed the fact that it's difficult to get AncestryDNA matches to respond to messages, let alone upload to GEDmatch.

Another problem with AncestryDNA that we talked about is the lack of specific segment data, which hampers our ability to make the correct DNA connection with our matches. Matches can match through more than one couple; so segment mapping would help to determine which couple the DNA likely came from.

Another problem someone brought up was the need to meet the genealogy proof standard, regarding the lack of segment data at AncestryDNA. Scholarly genealogy journal articles, which refer to DNA testing, include exact segment data. Without the exact data and comparisons your proof argument won't hold up to scrutiny.



Next meeting we will discuss GEDmatch.

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Posted by **Annette** at **1:57 PM**

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)[My Pedigree Charts](#)[Research Goals](#)

Tuesday, October 25, 2016

## My Trip Back to My Ancestors Virginia Part 1



I went on another tour of ancestral states in late September and early October. I started off staying 5 days in Washington DC where I thoroughly enjoyed learning more about our shared American history. I also learned that the DAR is planning on creating their own subscription website, when I visited their library.

On my 5th day in Washington I joined a Trafalgar tour which took us to historical sites in Virginia, then through West Virginia and Maryland, to Pennsylvania to view more historical sites. Returning to DC we even passed through a portion of Delaware. More states than I've ever been through in my 53 years.

I was surprised by how close all of our destinations were on the East Coast. Driving from where I live near Los Angeles to San Francisco is about a 7 hour drive. Everything is much more spread out here. The route some of my ancestors took from Telford, Pennsylvania to the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia now takes about 4 and a half hours by car. If they walked that distance it would have taken around 80 hours. It probably took them a couple weeks to make their migration to Virginia.



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My ancestors who made their journey from Pennsylvania to Virginia were mainly Germans. Johannes Roller and his wife Anna. Lewis Zirkle and his mother Eva Bear. Johann Roush and his wife Susanna. They all settled in the Shenandoah Valley.

I also have Scots-Irish ancestors who initially settled in Pennsylvania and migrated through Virginia to Tennessee, namely Andrew Forgey and Margaret Reynolds. I believe Andrew and Margaret likely did live in Virginia for a few years, in the 1770's before settling in Tennessee around 1780. Andrew's brother Alexander Forgey died in Virginia.

The Browning family migrated from Maryland, through Virginia, to Tennessee around 1790.

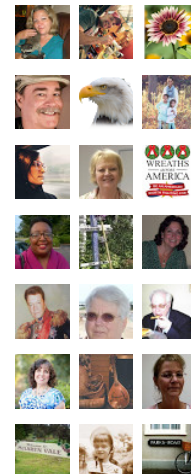
I'm not sure about the origins of two other Virginia ancestral families. My Wray family settled early in Virginia. The associated Thurman family was probably in Virginia in the 1600's.

As we made our way from Washington DC to Colonial Williamsburg I kept my eyes on the landscape which is so different from dry California. I've never seen so many trees in my life.

Our first stop was Mt. Vernon the home of our first President George Washington. Gorgeous location and beautiful home. I really enjoyed my visit. I thought about the fact some in our family have speculated that our Shenandoah ancestors may have seen Washington as he surveyed near their property.



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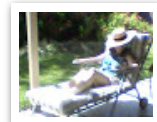
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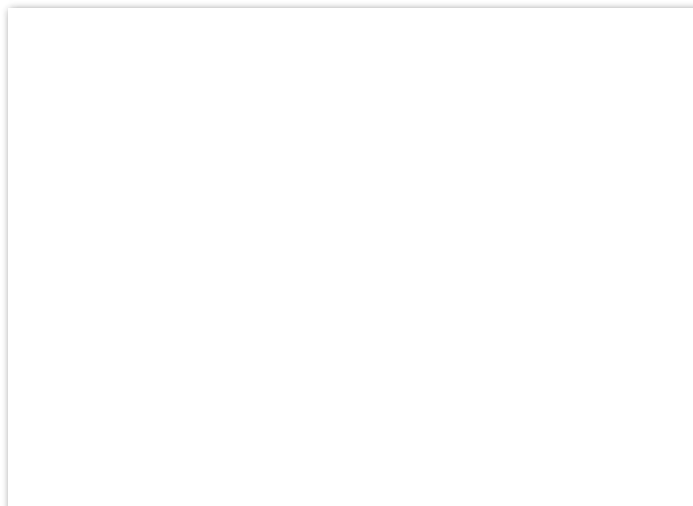
## Feedjit





Above George and Martha Washington's Tomb.

The slave burial ground is **being excavated** as you can see below, in order to determine how many slaves are buried there, and exactly where the graves are.





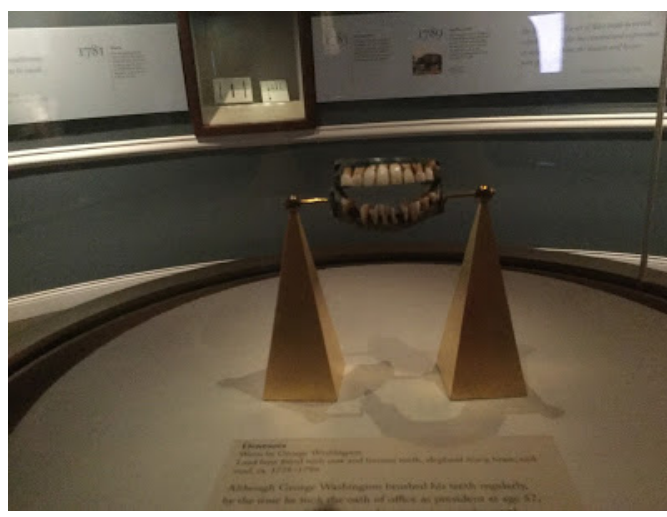


Slave burial ground excavation

Another part of the slave burial ground.



Of course I had to take a look at Washington's famous false teeth.



After spending a few hours at Mt. Vernon we headed to Yorktown. We spent a couple of hours at a Revolutionary War living history museum. Interesting to see how muskets were loaded and fired. I would have liked to have spent some time in Yorktown itself. That was one of the problems with this tour. It was a very good tour, but we went to a couple recreated sites instead of the original sites. I was going to ask about whether there is a list of Revolutionary War soldiers who were at Yorktown, but forgot. William McPike was thought to have served at Yorktown.



Traveling to Yorktown we passed through New Kent County. I'm still trying to establish descent from Richard Thurmond who lived in New Kent County in the early 1700's.

	Acres
Thorp, Tho.	200
Thurmond [Thurman] Rich <sup>d</sup>	131½
Tucker, Tho.	700
Turner, James	50
Thompson James	100

1704 Quit Rent Rolls New Kent County



We headed for Williamsburg to check into our hotel after the Yorktown tour. We headed to Colonial Williamsburg as a group for dinner at a tavern that evening. Nice ending to a very nice day.







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Posted by [Annette](#) at [8:40 PM](#)    [No comments:](#)    

Sunday, September 11, 2016

## STR's And YFull

The STR values finally came in for Roger Forgey (descendant of Andrew Forgey and Margaret Reynolds). The STR values provided through the [BigY](#) test, and [YFull](#), are said to be less reliable than the original FTDNA markers tests. The Big Y was not designed to be a marker test. It's designed to identify SNP's. Since our terminal SNP at this time is so old, about 800 years old, it isn't very helpful. I see more potential in the STRs. Although if we had a closer cousin tester to Roger at Y-Full we would get a closer terminal SNP. Sounds like a combination of STR's and SNP's gives you an idea of how far back your common male ancestor lived? Still trying to understand all this.

I had hoped I could compare Roger's 37 marker test with Craig's 67 marker test. I was able to compare more markers; 61 to be exact. This does help. All matched except 3. Another mismatch was found on a marker in the 67 marker range. The other two were in the 37 marker range. This means they still remain close matches. They probably share a common male ancestor back in the 1600's, as we already know from our paper trail.

I will upgrade my Uncle's test to the Big Y when there is a sale. That should help.

Right now Roger Forgey has 4 close matches on the STRs. Three of the four are Fergusons. The one is not in the Ferguson group, and doesn't have any surname posted. This could be a Stewart? This result makes me think the STR's though more prone to error with this particular test, are accurate enough to establish which matches are closest in time. We believe Forgey

is a variant of Ferguson, and these results would seem to point in that direction. Matching up 400 STR's even if a few may be off by a digit would be great.

Close matches (4)	Distance	Distance	Distance	Distance	Distance	Distance	Distance
413	38	0.073	new	44	new	FERGUSON b - 1618, Ireland	1000000
481	35	0.087	new	44	new	FERGUSON b - 1618, Ireland	1000000
413	36	0.088	new	44	new	FERGUSON b - 1618, Ireland	1000000
411	38	0.082	new	44	new	FERGUSON b - 1618, Ireland	1000000

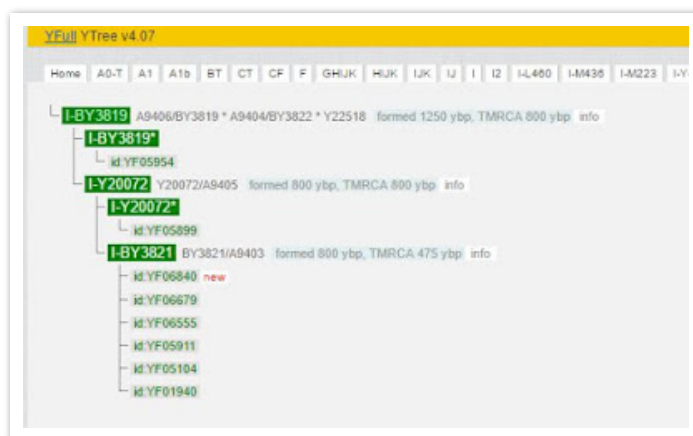
I have no idea what the significance of having 30 markers difference is at 400 markers? Not sure how far back in time that would put the common ancestor?

It appears that they were only able to get 431 good reads on Roger's STR's, out of 500. An average comparison of about 400 STR's between his matches. With 55 not available for comparison.

Full statistics	
Raw data (Y)	Known SNPs
STRs (all):	500
Reliable alleles:	431 (86.20%)
Uncertain alleles:	14 (2.80%)
N/A:	55 (11.00%)

Going back to our about 800 year old terminal SNP. Four out of seven of Roger's SNP I-BY3819 matches are Fergusons. Y-Full estimates that the time to the most recent ancestor for I-BY3819 could be from 1250 years to 425 years ago. Not sure how they come up with these calculations which seem to disagree with one another? The Fergusons in the Ferguson group are actually more closely related to each other with a newer, downstream, terminal SNP of I-BY3821 which they estimate has a Time To Most Recent Ancestor (TMRCA) of 800 to 275 years ago. They could all share a common male ancestor as recently as 275 years ago.

For those new to Y DNA testing SNPs are listed on a Y tree which looks like this:



Those related closer in time have SNP's farther down on the list, or downstream.



The STR's look like this:

Paternal Ancestor Name	Country	Haplogroup	DY5393	DY5390	DY5391	DY5385	DY5386	DY5459	DY5389	DY5388	DY5458	DY5454	DY5447	DY5437	DY5448	DY5464	DY5460	Y-QA17A-H4	YCAII	DY5406	DY5407	DY5370	CDY	DY5442	DY5438	DY5531						
Oregon/Forgy Haplo Group Share Common Ancestor																																
Samuel Forgy, b. 1726 and d. 1770	Ireland	I-M223	14	24	15	10	15-16	11	13	11	14	12	30																			
Samuel Forgy 1726 - 1770	France	I-L126	14	24	15	10	15-16	11	13	11	14	12	30	16	8-9	11	11	26	15	20	27	11-11-14-16	11	10	19-21	14	14	19	18	31-37	12	10
Andrew Forgy, 1732-1809	Unknown Origin	I-M223	14	24	15	11	15-16	11	13	11	14	12	30	16	8-9	11	11	26	15	20	27	11-11-14-16	11	10	19-21	14	14	20	18	31-37	12	10
Andrew Forgy d. 1820	Unknown Origin	I-L126	14	24	15	11	15-16	11	13	11	14	12	30	16	8-9	11	11	26	15	20	27	11-11-14-16	11	10	19-21	14	14	19	18	31-37	12	10
Andrew Forgy 1732 - 1809	Ireland	I-BY3819	14	24	15	11	15-16	11	13	11	14	12	30	16	8-9	11	11	26	15	20	27	11-11-14-16	11	10	19-21	14	14	20	18	31-37	12	10
Andrew Forgy, 1732-1809	Unknown Origin	I-M223	14	24	15	11	15-16	11	13	11	14	12	30	16	8-9	11	11	26	15	20	27	11-11-14-16	11	10	19-21	14	14	20	18	31-37	12	11
Mr. Samuel Forgy, d. 1770	Northern Ireland	I-L126	14	24	15	11	15-16	11	13	11	14	12	30	16	8-9	11	11	26	15	20	27	11-11-14-17	11	10	19-21	15	14	20	18	31-37	12	10
Samuel Forgy, b. 1726 and d. 1770	Ireland	I-M223	14	24	15	11	15-16	11	13	11	14	12	30	16	8-9	11	11	26	15	20	27	11-11-14-17	11	10	19-21	15	14	20	18	31-37	12	10

The rows represent those tested. The columns are the values on each marker. The value numbers need to be exactly the same to match on that marker.

Upgrading another Forgy test to the Big Y will be helpful. It is very expensive so I wouldn't do it unless there is a good sale. Comparing 400 STR's could prove to be very helpful.

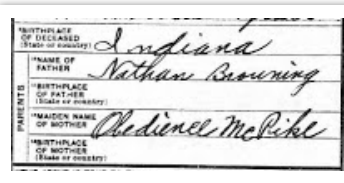
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Thursday, September 1, 2016

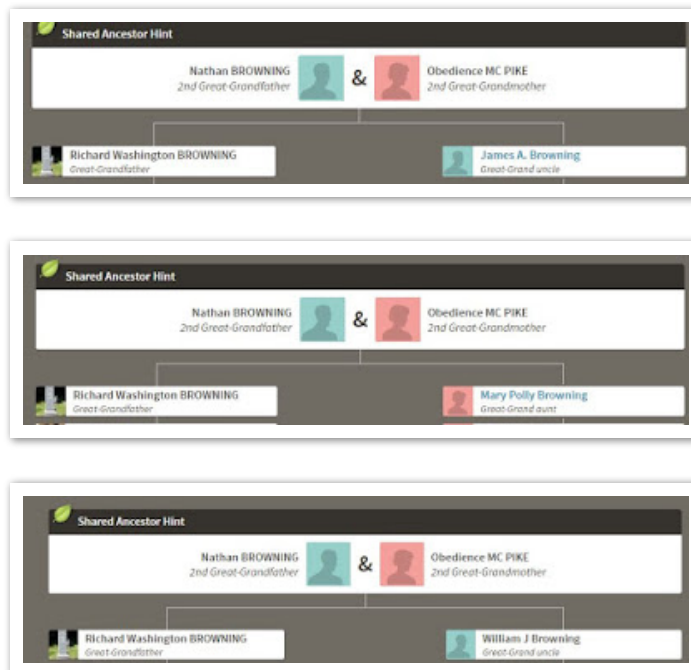
# Strengthening The McPike And Browning Lines, Indiana and Tennessee



I made out and mailed the "First Families Of Tennessee" application. As I was doing that I was thinking how do we know the Nathan Browning in Roger Browning's 1828 Greene County, TN Will is our Nathan? Our Nathan in Indiana is definitely our progenitor because he and his wife Obedience McPike are named as parents on a couple Browning death certificates and a marriage certificate. I was thinking how would I prove the Nathan in Greene County, Tennessee was the same person as our Nathan in Indiana? This is a common problem the farther back we trace the family. How do we establish someone with the same name in another state is actually our ancestor? It's been a while sense I've looked at the Browning line. For my purposes I was convinced the Brownings in Greene County were the same, and they migrated to Indiana.



We are definitely blood relatives of Nathan Browning and Obedience McPike. My late mother has many DNA matches with descendants of this couple. Here are a few of the lines we match:



Why do we believe Nathan Browning and wife Obedience McPike originally came from Tennessee and specifically the Greene County area? We have the Roger Browning Will stating he has a son named Nathan. There were several Nathan Browning's in the US who were contemporaries of our Nathan Browning. Can we be sure which one is ours? Looking at Census records of the children of Nathan Browning (Nathan died before the 1850 Census contained birthplaces, as did his wife) the older children state they were born in Tennessee. This would support Roger Browning as being Nathan's father since there were no other Nathan Browning's in the early Tennessee records.

Probably the strongest supporting circumstantial evidence is the fact Lina Dayton, named as Roger's daughter in his 1828 will, ends up with her husband Joseph in Pleasant Run Township, Lawrence County, Indiana. The same township Nathan Browning and Obedience McPike lived in.

A snippet of handwritten text from a will, with the name 'Lina Dayton' highlighted in yellow. The text is written in cursive and appears to be a legal document.

Roger Browning's 1828 Will Greene County, TN naming daughter Lina Dayton

How do we know Lina Dayton, named in her husband Joseph Dayton's will, is the same Lina Dayton named in her father Roger's will? A very strong piece of evidence appears in her husband Joseph Dayton's will. One of Lina and Joseph's children is named Browning Dayton. We have to thank Joseph and Lina for solidifying the Browning connection by naming a son Browning!

Joseph Dayton's will Lawrence County, Indiana

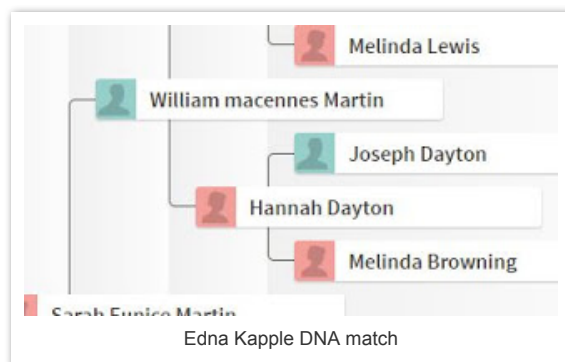
Joseph Dayton's will Lawrence County, Indiana

To make these connections even firmer Nathan Browning and Obedience McPike had a daughter named Melinda. Lina's name was actually Melinda, this niece appears to have been named after her.

14	1773/1773	Miss Melinda Browning	37 m	Tennessee	7016	A.P.
15		Melinda	33 f	Tennessee		
16		John A.	19 m	Tennessee		
17		Henry B.	17 f	Tennessee		

Here we have Melinda Browning/Ramsey 1850 Census  
States she was born in Tennessee

My mother matched a descendant of Melinda "Lina" Browning/Dayton at AncestryDNA, which provides even more support for our Browning pedigree (we also match a descendant of Roger's daughter Sala Dewes, she was also named in his will).



I'm always on the lookout for more information. It would be great if a document specifically stated the Browning's of Lawrence County, Indiana came from Greene County, Tennessee. Haven't found a document with that direct statement yet. The evidence we have is strong anyway.

William McPike is the only McPike I can find on early records for Tennessee. All of Obedience McPike/Browning's children agree that she was born in Tennessee about 1789. Obedience also named a son William. I'm confident William is her father. I'll keep looking for more evidence however.

Everyone seems to have William McPike's wife, and Obedience's mother, as Obedience Holloway. I can't find any documentation to support this? Apparently William McPike and William Holloway built a road in Washington County, according to a minutes book for that county. Not sure what sort of document states that William's wife was a Holloway? I do find a William Holloway on an 1805 Taxlist for Greene County, TN. If she was a Holloway William

may have been her brother?

I'm still trying to figure out where in Greene, Sullivan, and Washington counties the Brownings and McPikes lived. I need to collect up the deeds. It appears William McPike purchased land 140 acres of land from Shadrack Hale (Washington County Deeds book 4, page 23 July 20, 1789). Since William McPike appears on a Greene County tax list in 1783 (Nolichucky Settlers) it appears he was living on land in Washington bordering Greene County? On February 8, 1796 William McPike buys 250 acres of land from William Rosberry. It was located on the Limestone Fork of Lick Creek in Greene County (book 2, page 445 Greene County Deeds). He sold this land December 28, 1796 (book 6, page 156 Greene County, TN Deeds). The following year on Christmas day William bought 220 acres on Tory creek (now Long Creek?) in Cocke County, TN. I don't have any of the actual deeds. I am hoping the actual deeds contain more family information?

As for Roger Browning I don't have any deeds or deed index information. I had associated him with Greene County more than his in-law William McPike. Now it appears William McPike was in Greene County in 1783 with the other Nolichucky Settlers. Roger doesn't appear in Greene County until around 1800. Before that he is living in Sullivan County, where his likely brother Amsey Browning also lived. He first purchased land in Sullivan County in 1789. Apparently the deed says the land is on Kendrick Creek? I'm not sure where his land in Greene County was, but it may have been near his son's land on Caney Branch?

I've written to the North Carolina Archives to get a copy of William McPike's Revolutionary War file. I think it may just be a voucher? I thought I saw somewhere that he hired a substitute? I may be completely wrong? According to a 1919 article from DAR magazine all of the able bodied men living in Washington County in 1780 would likely have fought at the Battle of Kings Mountain, and some would have went on to Yorktown. The McPike's seem to believe William did serve at both of these locations. There was another William McPike from Pennsylvania who was indeed at Yorktown. Not sure if two William McPike's were at Yorktown?



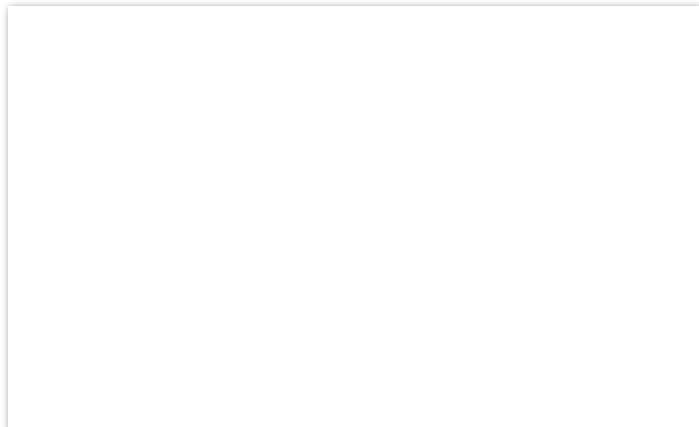
THE following tax list is perhaps the oldest county tax assessment of the state in existence. The original, like many court records of value to genealogists, has been carelessly misplaced or destroyed and is no longer accessible. With few exceptions the men whose names appear on the list were Revolutionary soldiers and patriots. It is impossible in these short notes to mention but a few of the early families. They may, however, be classed as those residing in Washington County during the Revolutionary War, and those who emigrated to the settlements at the close of hostilities.

Washington County, 1783

1919 DAR magazine

Naming patterns, Roger Browning's 1828 will in Greene County, TN, documents naming the birthplaces of the Browning family of Indiana, and DNA have been important in establishing our Browning lineage and roots in Tennessee.

I'll be collecting up the actual deeds, and hopefully getting a copy of the Revolutionary War document or documents soon.





Visiting the Sycamore Shoals Museum sparked my interest in finding out whether William McPike fought at King's mountain

Posted by [Annette](#) at [6:01 PM](#) [2 comments:](#) 

Saturday, August 27, 2016

## Proving A Tennessee First Families Line To 1796



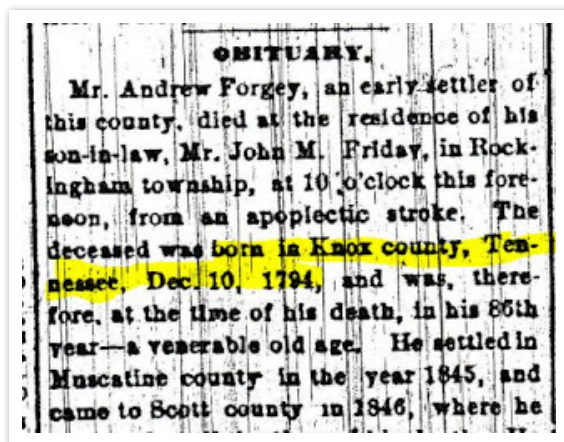
I just returned from the "[First Families of Tennessee Reunion & Jubilee](#)" 2016 in Knoxville. I had a wonderful time! A distant cousin provided great company, and drove me to all the family sites. Nice since I don't know anyone else in the area. I attended the conference and learned a great deal about Tennessee and Virginia research that I didn't know. I will have to do research in Virginia Civil Parish records now. The yearly property line processioning records could be useful for me. Also I need to find out who the Forgey family landlord was in



Co. Louth Ireland in hopes his records contain some family information. The Scots-Irish presentation was outstanding.

I would like to join "[First Families of Tennessee](#)" and get the certificate. I'm not sure which line contains the best proof. I will read through the instructions for acceptance carefully before submitting an ancestral line. I have two, out of 3, lines which should qualify. One line is my Roger Browning line. My other line would be the Andrew Forgey line. The Forgey family was in Tennessee by 1780.

**Here is the proof for the Andrew Forgey ancestral lineage:**



The obituary is proof my ancestor Andrew was in Tennessee in 1794. Although probably not the best proof since this is a secondary source.

Circumstantial evidence points to a Hugh Forgey being Andrew's father. All other Forgey couples in Knox County have identified children. Hugh Forgey and Catherine Fisher are the only couple living in Knox County at the time of Andrew's birth without identified children. Also, Andrew had a brother Archibald who appears to have been named after Hugh's father-in-law Archibald Fisher. And my ancestor Hugh Forgey, Andrew's son, appears to be named after his grandfather Hugh Forgey. My Andrew born 1794 would have also been named after his Forgey grandfather. Hugh's name first appears in Tennessee records in 1786, when he signs a petition for the division of Sullivan County. Hugh's parents were Andrew Forgey and Margaret Reynolds. Andrew Forgey was granted land in Sullivan County in 1780.

Every US Census Andrew Forgey, born 1794, appeared on states he was born in Tennessee

41	41	Andrew Forgey	1794	Tennessee	
42	42	Elizabeth	1794	Tennessee	
43	43	John	1794	Tennessee	
44	44	Archibald	1794	Tennessee	
45	45	James	1794	Tennessee	
46	46	Samuel	1794	Tennessee	
47	47	James H. Mitchell	1794	Tennessee	

A Forgey family bible lists my ancestor Hugh Forgey as Andrew Forgey, born 1794's, son. (it does not date to the time period, but instead contains entries transcribed from another older family bible along with contemporary mid to late 1800's entries)

Andrew Forgey was born Dec 10<sup>th</sup> 1794  
 Anna Goller his wife . . . July 12<sup>th</sup> 1799  
 Hugh Forgey was born Mar 15<sup>th</sup> 1805  
 John Forgey . . . Sept 10<sup>th</sup> 1810  
 Eleanor Forgey . . . Apr 20<sup>th</sup> 1820  
 Anna Forgey . . . July 7<sup>th</sup> 1820  
 James Forgey . . . July 26<sup>th</sup> 1825  
 Betsey Ann Forgey was born Oct 25 1827  
 Nancy Forgey was born Jan 14<sup>th</sup> 1830  
 Elias Forgey . . . Mar 4<sup>th</sup> 1832  
 Andrew Jackson Forgey was born Sept 8<sup>th</sup> 1835  
 Jacob Goller Forgey . . . July 7<sup>th</sup> 1837  
 Geo. Washington Forgey . . . Sept 10<sup>th</sup> 1840

The above bible entry is proof of descent from my ancestor Hugh Forgey, son of Andrew.

The next link in the chain to myself would be Hugh's son William Wray Forgey. I have Hugh's will and a Census record to prove this link.

In the name of God, Amen,  
 I Hugh Forgey of Jackson County, Indiana, do  
 Make and publish this my last Will and testament  
 proving all others by me made,  
 I give devise and bequeath to my beloved  
 daughter Sophia Cross, and Nancy Ann Jackson, the  
 equally divided between them, the following described real  
 Estate, to wit: The South East quarter of the North West  
 quarter of Section three Township 10 North Range  
 four East, Containing forty acres more or less, situ-  
 ate in Hart Brook Township, Jackson County, Indiana,  
 Also the North West quarter of the North East quar-  
 ter of Section eight Township 10 North Range four  
 East, Containing forty acres more or less, and  
 the South West quarter of the North East quarter of  
 same Section Township and Range, situate in  
 Brownstown Township, Jackson County, Indiana,  
 the foregoing bequest to be in full of their interest of the  
 real Estate of which Nancy Ann Jackson is  
 the sole and only living issue of my daughter Sophia Cross  
 and my daughter Nancy Ann Jackson  
 I give devise and bequeath all the residue of the real  
 Estate and personal property of which I am

1820	1830	1840	1850	1860	1870
752 905	Forgey Hugh W. 10 60	1	Clayton	1	Clayton
	Is Charles 10 2 18	1	Anderson	1	Anderson
	Is John 10 2 18	1	Anderson	1	Anderson
	Is James 10 2 18	1	Anderson	1	Anderson
753 106	Forgey William W. 10 22	1	Clayton	1	Clayton
	Is John 10 2 18	1	Anderson	1	Anderson

William Wray Forgey's son Charles Lynn Forgey was my Grandfather. I would establish the link between Charles and his father with the 1910 US Census.

1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960
44 22	Forgey William	Head	W. 47 8		
	Forgey B.	Daughter	F. W. 19 8		
	Clayton	Son	M. W. 16 8		
	Edgar R.	Daughter	F. W. 13 8		
	Charles L.	Son	M. W. 11 8		
	Claude R.	Son	M. W. 7 8		

I would establish the relationship between Charles L. Forgey and his daughter, my mother, Edna with the 1940 Census.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	248	348	0	2000	40	FORGEY, CHARLES S	HEAD	M	W	43	M	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA
2						GARRELA	WIFE	F	W	43	M	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA
3						EDNA	DAUGHTER	F	N	17	S	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA
4						GRACE	DAUGHTER	F	N	15	S	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA
5						DOROTHY	DAUGHTER	F	N	11	S	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA
6						CHARLES JR	SON	M	N	10	S	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA
7						CECIL	SON	M	N	10	S	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA
8	921	348	0	5200	40	ANDERSON, CARL S	HEAD	M	W	34	M	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA
9						HENA	WIFE	F	W	24	M	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA	INDIANA

I would use my own birth certificate to prove my relationship to my mother.

### Proving the Browning line would begin with Roger Browning:

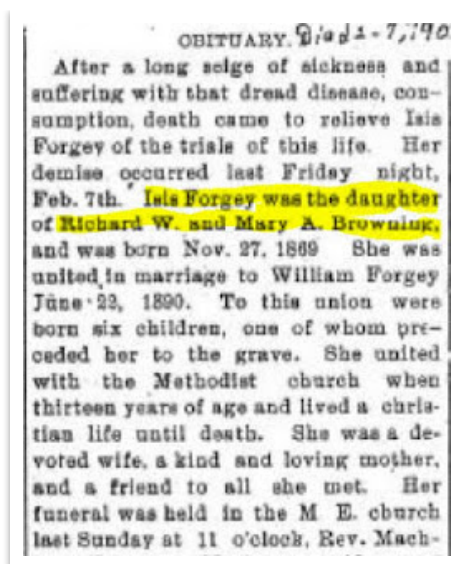
The East Tennessee Historical Society already has an approved descendant of Roger Browning. I don't need to prove Roger was in Tennessee prior to 1796, since this is already established. The First Family descendant of Roger used a 1789 deed for Sullivan County, TN as proof.

I would use Roger Browning's will to prove Nathan was his son:

part of my Estate. Next I give and Bequeath unto my eldest son William Browning the sum of five shillings currency. Next I give and Bequeath unto Edward, Jonathan, Benjamin, Nathan and Sonnia Browning my loving ones all the residue of my Estate both Real and Personal to them their heirs and assigns to be equally divided among them so that each of them shall have an equal part of it and also

My Ancestor Richard Washington Browning was a son of Nathan. I would use Richard's death certificate to prove that relationship. I can't find this document, unfortunately, so I will order another copy.

I would use my Great-Grandmother Isis Browning-Forgey's Obituary to prove her relationship to her father.



If that isn't enough I also have Isis Browning-Forgey's death certificate.

Indiana State Board of Health. 113

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH.

County of Carroll State of Indiana

Decd. Isis Browning-Forgey

Age 30 Sex Female Color White

DATE OF BIRTH Nov 27 1869 PLACE OF BIRTH Carroll Co. Ind

DATE OF DEATH Feb 7 1900 PLACE OF DEATH Carroll Co. Ind

CAUSE OF DEATH Pulmonary tuberculosis

Signature of Physician Callahan

Signature of Coroner McPike

From here I would use the 1910 Census, 1940 Census, and my birth certificate.

### William McPike:

Another early Tennessee settler ancestor of mine would be William McPike. I'm finding several problems with some of the research I've found posted about him. There does appear to be a payment voucher for him located at the North Carolina archives. The payment was made out to someone living in the Tennessee area, voucher #59, folio 2, special cert #3437. It is most likely for my ancestor William McPike. He is said to have fought at the Revolutionary Battle of King's Mountain. That is possible, but I thought I read somewhere that he hired a substitute? Also several people have stated he was at the battle of Yorktown. I believe that was a different William McPike. That man was fighting in a Pennsylvania regiment, not a North Carolina regiment.

If I were to use William McPike as my "First Families of Tennessee" ancestor I have no idea how I could prove my ancestor Obedience McPike's relationship, other than some circumstantial evidence? It looks like a number of William McPike's descendants have applied for membership in the DAR. I could order a packet of supporting documents from the DAR to see how William's children were proven?



I will probably join using my Roger Browning ancestor since my mother was most interested in the Browning line. I think she would approve.



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Posted by **Annette** at **10:51 AM**    No comments:    

Monday, June 20, 2016



## At A Standstill With Autosomal DNA

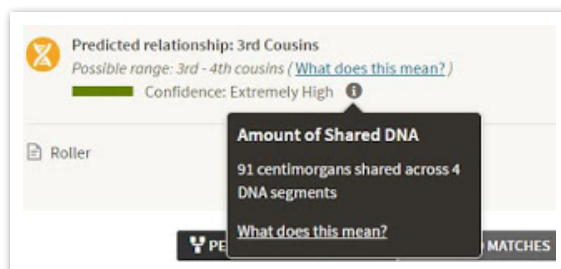
Don't mistake my post as criticism of autosomal DNA. It's a very useful test. However to make use of it for genealogy purposes we need to map segments. If you are looking for your parents, siblings, 1st cousins mapping isn't necessary. Adoptees can get results without mapping segments. Genealogists, generally, are not looking for close relatives.

The problem I've run up against is the DNA testing company with the most good matches doesn't provide exact segment information. Everyone knows this is AncestryDNA. What I have managed to do is reconfirm, over and over, that I am indeed related by blood to several paper trail ancestors.

23andMe isn't much better. They have a great chromosome browser, and now they have a great common match feature, but they don't have a way to post a tree at their site. No trees means not much progress using their site. I have, however, been able to collect some segments for my DNA mapping, which sure beats AncestryDNA. Family Tree DNA is a bust now too, because they have failed to attract enough testers. I haven't gotten a good match with them in a long time. I have in the past been able to collect some important segment data. Now that Ancestry is dominating the market for DNA testing Family Tree DNA seems to have had a steep decline in the number of testers.

Everyone says just ask your AncestryDNA matches to compare at GEDmatch. I have not been lucky enough to have many agree. My top matches, generally, have not to date agreed to upload to GEDmatch. Without being able to map my chromosomes with large segments from 2nd to 3rd cousins it's impossible to confirm where the smaller segments come from. I could put together a great chromosome map if only AncestryDNA somehow provided a chromosome browser. I would love to resolve a brickwall on my Campbell line using autosomal DNA, but can't without a chromosome map. Establishing exactly which segments relate to which families is critical to success with autosomal DNA. This can't always be done if, for instance, you are from an endogamous population. I do have ancestors who were French Canadian. This population is very interrelated. The French Canadian segments are useful anyway. They tell me these segments came from my maternal Great-Great Grandfather. Aside from the French Canadian line my family isn't endogamous.

Recently I'm noticing some matches sharing substantial amounts of DNA at AncestryDNA, such a 91 cM share. I know exactly how we are related since the match has a tree posted. I'm hoping that this match agrees to upload to GEDmatch. This alone won't be very helpful, however, without many more matches also sharing their segment information. It's the aggregate segment data that is so powerful when it comes to using autosomal.



AncestryDNA cites the danger of matches discovering inherited disease information about a match through segment data as the reason they will not provide exact segment info. I'm afraid without the exact segment information the test isn't very useful for genealogists.

AncestryDNA really painted themselves into a corner by not providing the ability to share segments early on. They've decided to ignore this important tool and provide New Ancestor Discoveries and Circles. I've written in my blog about how a 4th cousin and I shared some of the same NAD's. This line has a brickwall too, so I was very interested in the origins of the NAD matches. I tried to workout how we were all possibly related. Those NAD's have now

been removed by AncestryDNA. I guess we aren't likely related after all, or at least within the genealogical time frame. This waste of time could have been better spent mapping chromosomes.

I'll keep trying to persuade AncestryDNA matches to upload to GEDmatch. Otherwise I will remain at a standstill.

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Posted by **Annette** at **11:23 AM**

No comments:



Tuesday, May 10, 2016

## To Phase Or Not To Phase? Plus, She's Back?



My to Quack or not to Quack souvenir from my recent vacation

### That is the question...

Is the phasing and filtering AncestryDNA does worth the extra processing? I've wavered about this for years. It sounds like a great idea. On a theoretical basis it is. In practice not so much. The phasing AncestryDNA does attempts to use haplotypes to separate the DNA we inherit from each parent. The results are also filtered in order to remove matches who share population segments. When I listened to an Ancestry representative explain the haplotype method she did say there was an error rate with the phasing. Some haplotypes haven't been encountered before. Removing population segments, with filtering, isn't helpful for me since these segments at least tell me which ethnic group a segment comes from.

A recent update to the AncestryDNA product has many discussing the merits of this company's approach to matching. An issue was brought up at the Facebook ISOGG group which I hadn't noticed. Before the recent AncestryDNA update parents and children were said to share up to 90 segments of DNA. According to the other companies around 30 segments are shared. This vast discrepancy is due to the fact Ancestry's phasing and filtering chops up segments. The recent update has brought the number of shared segments down to the 50's. Still many more than the other companies.

I've posted about the fact that during AncestryDNA's previous update, when Timber was introduced, a 3rd cousin went missing. I checked to see if she was returned immediately after the update finished. I didn't see her listed as a 3rd or 4th cousin so I assumed she wasn't returned with this update. Going through hints yesterday I found her. She has returned. She is listed as a 5th to 8th cousin now. What does this tell me? First of all the prediction is off.

Secondly it tells me the AncestryDNA product is still in a state of flux and who knows what will happen with future updates? Apparently someone can match you today, and may be removed in the future, just to possibly be returned somewhere down the line?

I didn't find that any close matches were removed this time. I did find several distant cousin matches had been removed. It's possible these matches do match DNA wise? AncestryDNA states it is possible good matches were removed.

	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
15th - 8th c YES			Daniel Morris Tabitha Franklin County, VA				
15th - 8th c YES			Morris				
15th - 8th c YES			French Canadian				
15th - 8th c YES			Kinsaid Rheg				
15th - 8th c YES			Owens				
15th - 8th c YES							
15th - 8th c YES			Wray				
15th - 8th c YES			Nicaragua				
15th - 8th c YES			browning				
15th - 8th c YES			Another Jacob and Eve match through Jacob				
15th - 8th c YES			French Canadian				
15th - 8th c YES			Lamy Quebec				
15th - 8th c YES							
15th - 8th c YES			Hungary				
15th - 8th c YES			lanaitre				
15th - 8th c YES			French Canadian				
15th - 8th c YES			Zirkle/Bear Catherine				
15th - 8th c YES			Callahan				
15th - 8th c YES			French Canadian				
15th - 8th c YES			Roller/Zirkle (Sarah)				
15th - 8th c YES			Zirkle/Bear (Margaret)				

I would rather see AncestryDNA do away with the phasing and filtering. Shuffling matches in and out of our lists doesn't make any sense. It's just confusing. Does the phasing and filtering improve match results? Not in my case. Predictions at the 3rd cousin range and beyond are impossible to get exactly right. I'm not even sure if phasing and filtering helps improve predictions for closer cousins? What it can do is remove good matches.

One thing is certain, every time AncestryDNA updates results they get publicity. As someone once said "there's no such thing as bad publicity."

Posted by **Annette** at **9:25 AM** **2 comments:** 

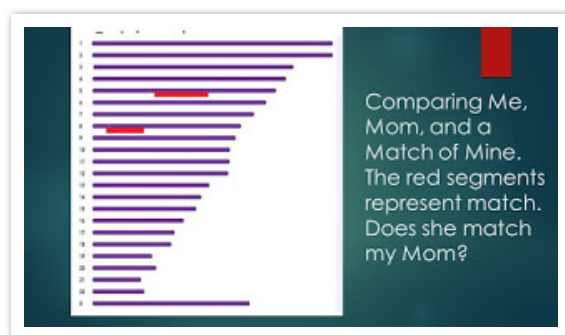
Wednesday, April 6, 2016

## Recap Of Sunday's SL Discussion: Working With Segments

We've been having DNA discussions in the virtual world of Second Life (just consult the "Genealogists In Second Life" page at Facebook for more details). Our next discussion will be on Sunday May 1, 2016.

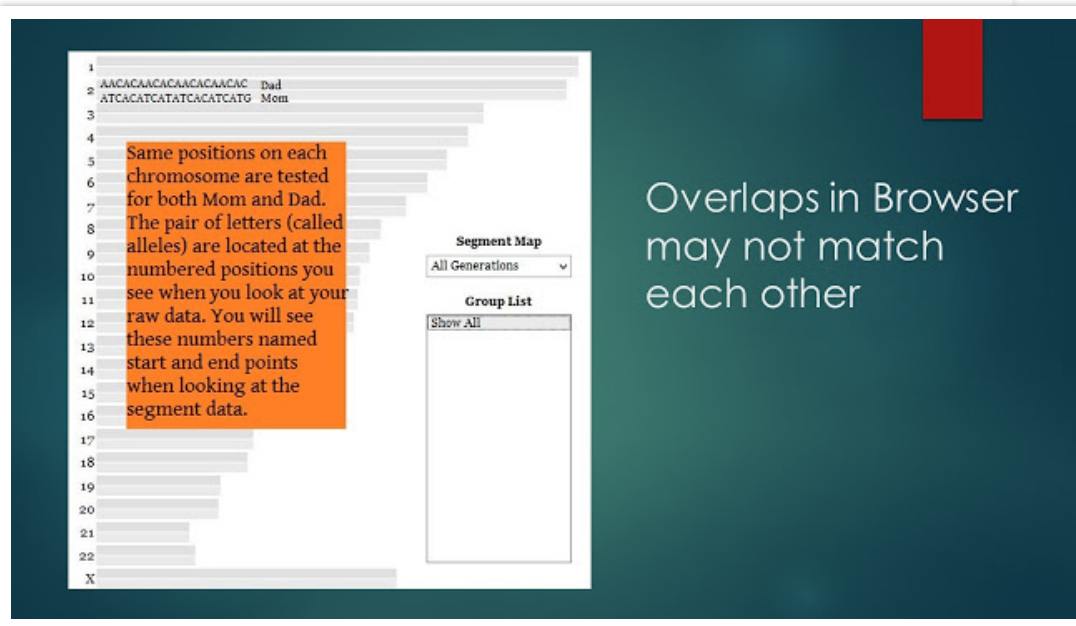
Here is a recap of our last meeting Sunday April 3, 2016.

This slide shows a view from the 23andme chromosome browser

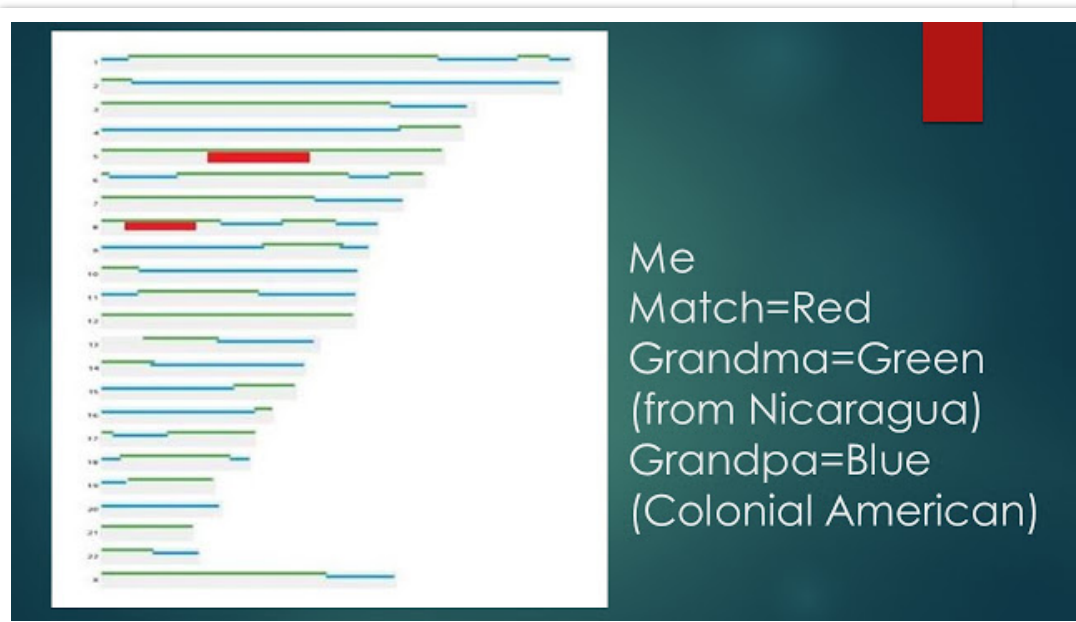


- The browser shows our 23 pairs of chromosomes. One row from our Mother the other from our Father
- It shows where my Mom, a match, and I share DNA.
- Mom shares from side to side on each chromosome (the purple lines).
- Match is represented by the red segments
- Does she match my Mom?
- We would check either my Mom or my matches match list and see if they match

- We would then check the chromosome browser to verify they match on the same chromosomes in the same place



- Another view (above) of a chromosome browser shows the pair of 23 chromosomes, plus the X
- I've listed some alleles (i.e., A's, G's, C's, T's) which are used to determine who matches
- One line across each chromosome always represents a parent. The companies can't tell which alleles come from which parent. Only testing parents can work this out, in order to list the alleles separately and correctly for each parent. Without that it's up to software to figure this out
- AncestryDNA phases results without parents. This often produces good results, according to them. They acknowledge a small error rate
- The same positions are tested for each parent
- Because of that segments two, or more, matches may look like they match in the chromosome browser. You must know whether the match is a match on the paternal or maternal side to know whether overlapping segments represent a match
- I tested my mother so I can narrow down the possibilities

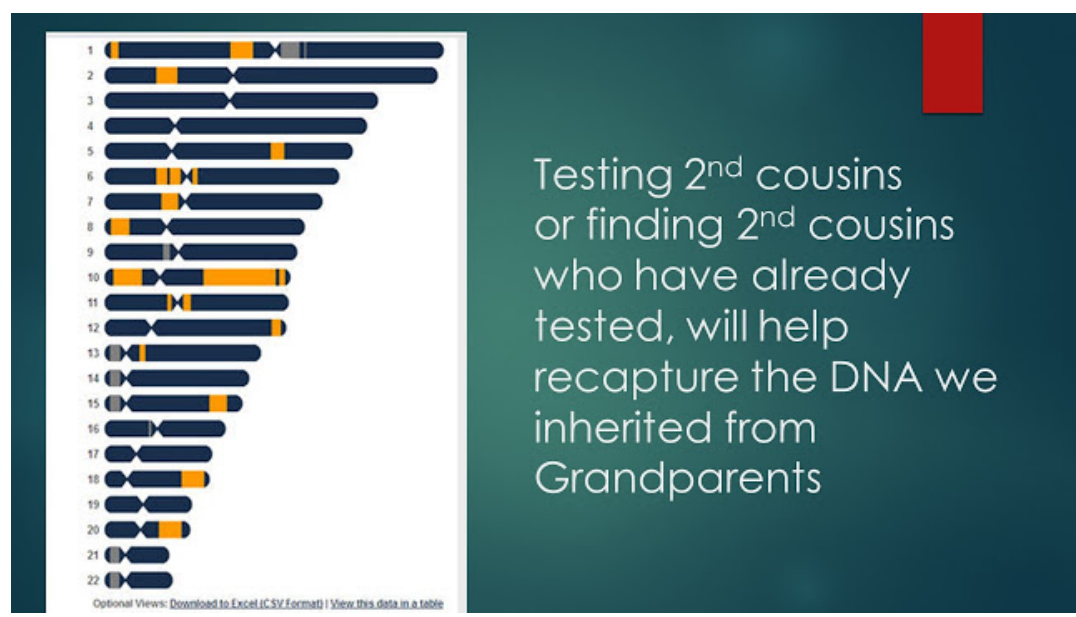


- I borrowed someone else's grandparents to demonstrate how having grandparents segments is useful in establishing IBD segments and finding a more precise relationship with matches.
- Here you can see the possible 3rd cousin match also has the same matching segments as she had with my mother. She matches my maternal grandmother on the same segments
- As it turns out she is also Nicaraguan. Just like my grandmother
- These segments are certainly IBD

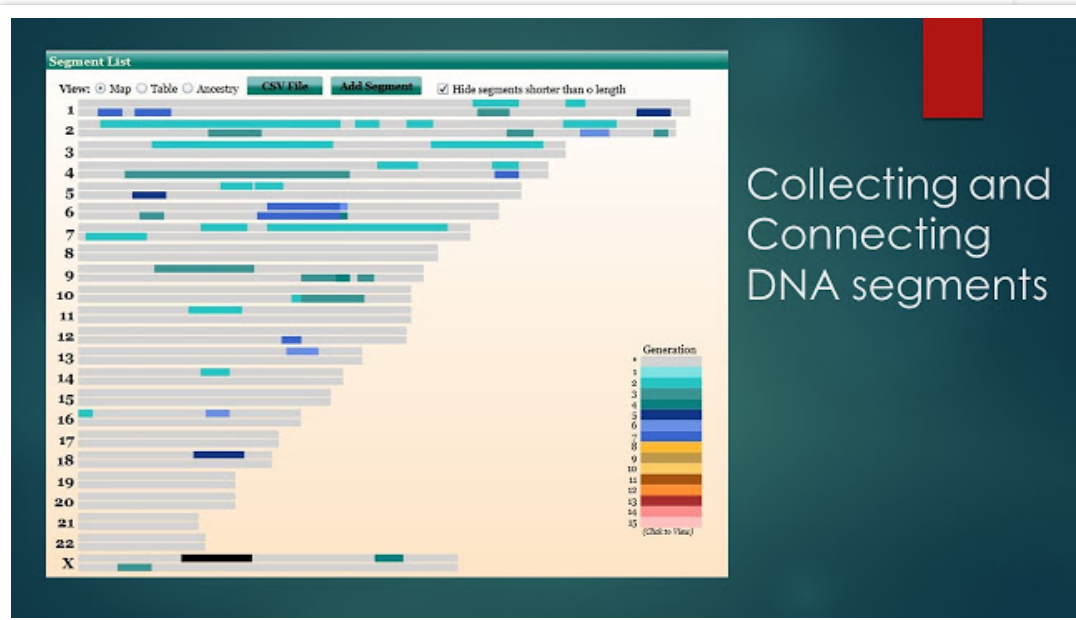


- You can see (in the slide above) that the other set of grandparents don't share the same red segments. This confirms there is no match on the paternal side
- This view shows the segments that my grandparents gave me through my father. The side to side shares from parents are divided up by segments they got from their parents. Siblings receive different assortments of DNA from grandparents.
- Grandparents DNA is further segmented with DNA from their parents
- This chain of inherited DNA continues back in time, until we not longer share DNA with certain ancestors
- Notice here how the paternal grandparents segments fit together like puzzle pieces (above)





- If you don't have living grandparents you can recreate the segments your grandparents gave to you by testing and comparing segments with 2nd cousins
- There is also a way to test siblings to find start and end points for grandparents shares



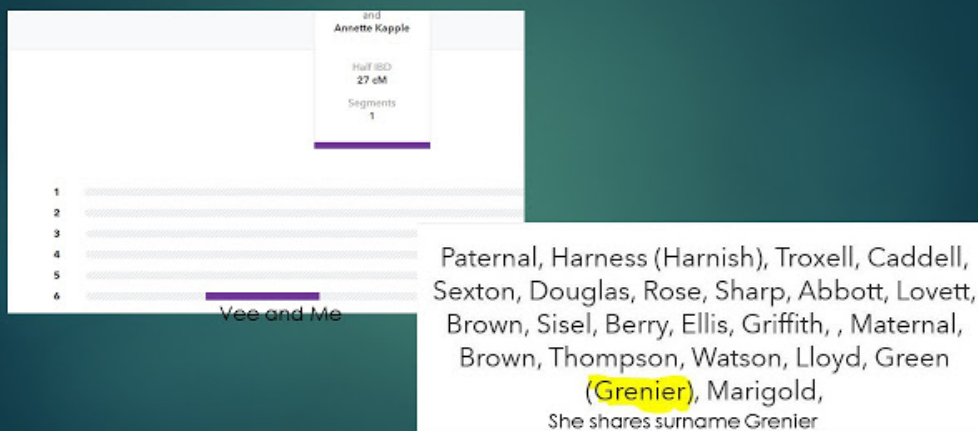
- Downloading segment data from Family Tree DNA , 23andMe, and GEDmatch allows you to compare segments from matches from all three places
- You can upload and compare the segments at third party sites such as Kitty's Chromosome Mapper. Or you can download a free app from [Genomate Pro](#) (good idea to donate too). This software will allow you to store and compare your segment match data.

## Triangulation

- ▶ What if we don't have many close relatives who have tested. We can compare our matches and see if we find places where several of our matches segments overlap. We can do this using the chromosome browsers at 23andMe or Family Tree DNA. It's actually best to upload data from the companies and GEDmatch to Genome Mate Pro where we can compare all matches. If we find an area where 3 or more matches share a segment and share an ancestor or and ancestral couple we have a triangulation. We can then name that segment after the corresponding family or ancestor. Using segments which are statistically likely to be IBD is essential if you don't have close relatives to establish a segment as IBD. According to Dr. Tim Janzen 15 cM, 2500 SNP, segments are more likely to be IBD.

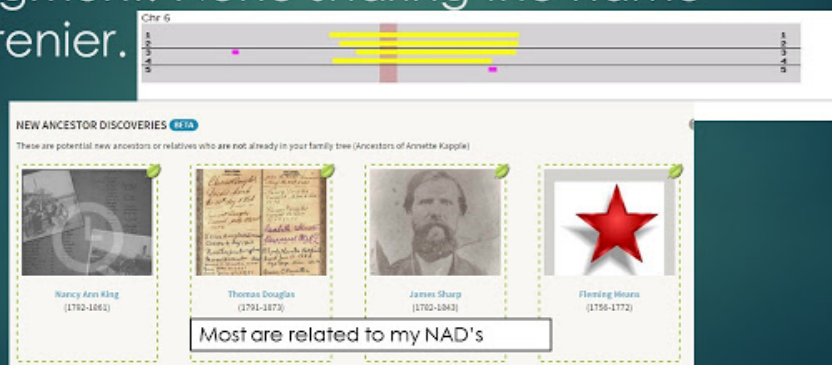
- Triangulation is useful for all testers. The definition of triangulation is having a matching or overlapping segment with two matches or more
- It's especially useful if you don't have close relatives who have tested. In such cases a good triangulation can establish a segment as identical by descent, or not a false match
- Triangulated shared segments, or overlaps, should overlap by at least 7 cM's
- When triangulating without establishing segments as identical by descent, using close relatives, it's best to use segments in the IBD range. According to Dr. Tim Janzen 15 cM and 2500 SNP segments are more likely to be IBD

## Vee and Other matches



- In September of 2015 Vee got in contact with me through 23andMe's messaging system. She asked me to look over her list of names, and said she had a tree on Ancestry. I determined the most likely connection was through the surname Grenier. I have French Canadian Ancestors with that surname. Her ancestors did not come to the US through Quebec, however. Instead they came from France to New York in the 1700's

Comparing at Genomatch Pro found more matches on same segment. None sharing the name Grenier.



- Last week I began using Genome Mate Pro. This app allows you to look at shared segments on each chromosome from various sources. I noticed Vee, my Paternal Aunt, a Paternal First Cousin, and a third cousin on the paternal side all matched on chromosome 6 in the same place. I found 2 others who also matched
- I had to dig a little to find trees for the two additional matches. When I compared everyone, except my 3rd cousin, and closer relatives, I found they all shared many of the same surnames, and all had Southern roots
- It also dawned on me that the names shared by these 3 common matches were also the surnames associated with all my NAD's
- Looking through the NAD's again I believe our common connection has something to do with the surname Douglas. I had first thought Troxell was the common surname, but one match in the NAD's doesn't share that surname. Still trying to work out our connection because I don't have Douglas on my tree?
- All of these matches share 25 to 32 cM segments, and around 8000 SNPs, on chromosome 6. This makes it nearly certain the shared segments are identical by descent

Someone at the discussion asked "Once you have verified your segment matches, did you then establish documentation through public records etc..?" Yes. You need to also compare documented trees to see how you might be related to a match. Unfortunately it's difficult to document trees at Family Tree DNA. Or maybe it's just not as straight forward? You can add stories and notes to your Family Tree DNA tree, which many of us, including me, haven't done.

We also discussed the fact that it's difficult to get AncestryDNA matches to respond to messages, let alone upload to GEDmatch.

Another problem with AncestryDNA that we talked about is the lack of specific segment data, which hampers our ability to make the correct DNA connection with our matches. Matches can match through more than one couple; so segment mapping would help to determine which couple the DNA likely came from.

Another problem someone brought up was the need to meet the genealogy proof standard, regarding the lack of segment data at AncestryDNA. Scholarly genealogy journal articles, which refer to DNA testing, include exact segment data. Without the exact data and comparisons your proof argument won't hold up to scrutiny.

Next meeting we will discuss GEDmatch.

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Posted by **Annette** at **1:57 PM**

No comments:



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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)[My Pedigree Charts](#)[Research Goals](#)

Friday, October 28, 2016

## Part 3 Richmond To Monticello



Spooky Halloween House in Charlottesville

Day 3 of the Trafalgar tour was a bit more leisurely than the beginning of my trip. We did start out early again. Leaving our bags out for 7 am pickup. We headed from Williamsburg to Richmond after breakfast. Our destination was St. John's Episcopal Church. This charming church reminded me of a Christmas village church. The church and surrounding buildings did remind me of a Christmas village.

St. John's Church is a National Historical Landmark. Originally built by Col. Richard Randolph, great-uncle of Thomas Jefferson. It was completed in 1741. The church was altered in 1772. The original structure was integrated into the 1772 addition.

St. John's Church was an important gathering place for colonists who opposed the tyrannical rule of the British government. Solidarity with the colonists in Massachusetts after the Boston Tea Party, and the resulting British blockade of the port of Boston, led the Virginia colonial legislature to declare June 1, 1774 a day of "Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer". The legislature was dissolved by Lord Dunmore in reaction to that resolution, which was seen as a hostile act against King George III. George Washington stated he went to church that day and fasted.



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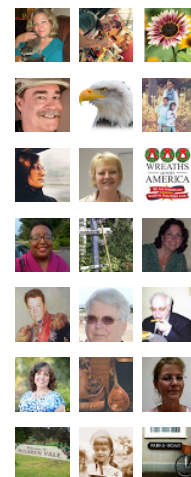


After the dissolving of the representative legislature in Virginia the house of Burgesses continued to meet in Raleigh Tavern in Williamsburg. They met there on August 1, 1774 in opposition to British rule and in solidarity with colonists in Massachusetts. This was the First Virginia Convention.

The Second Virginia Convention was held at St. John's Church in Richmond in March 1775. Our visit there included a reenactment of the famous speech given by Patrick Henry, "**Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death**" (click link to see youtube performance). Thomas Jefferson and George Washington also attended the Second Virginia Convention, along with other notable colonial citizens. The Third Convention also met at St. John's Church. These conventions established an opposition government and raised military forces.



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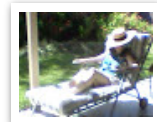
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## About Me



**Annette**

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## Feedjit





This Weddell monument caught my eye because this surname had be associated with our early family





Edgar Alan Poe's mother is buried at St. John's Cemetery

After spending time exploring the Cemetery we made our way back to the coach. Next stop was Monticello. The sky was overcast when we got to Monticello. It didn't rain however. I had no idea Monticello was located on the top of a mountain. You can either take a tram to the site or walk. There were so many people lined up for the trams I decided to walk through the wooded path to the site.



The first site I came up to was the Jefferson family cemetery. Lovely little cemetery.





The top of Jefferson's mountain was leveled flat to accommodate Jefferson's villa . The villa was designed by Jefferson himself. Jefferson wanted to create a uniquely American architectural style, while incorporating European architectural elements. Work began on his future villa in 1768.



I loved everything about this plantation villa. The views from the top of the mountain are beautiful. The home itself is a masterpiece. Jefferson inherited this land from his father. The isolated mountain top location suited his introverted personality. He was not comfortable in the lime light. He was not a good public speaker, according to contemporary accounts. Even this secluded location could be too overwhelming at times. He would then retreat to an even more private location.







The interior of the house is as interesting as the exterior. The first room we entered contains Jefferson's American natural history and Native American artifact collection. Really fascinating, as is the calendar clock in the room. The tour then moves to a sitting room office area, with paintings of the Jefferson family. Jefferson suffered the loss of children, and his wife in this house. The Jeffersons had 6 children. Only two survived to adulthood (Jefferson and his wife were 3rd cousins. Not sure if that had an affect on the health of their children?).



The next room on the tour was his beautiful library. His book collection formed the first Library of Congress. His bedroom is next on the tour. Easy access to the library from the Jefferson bedroom as they are located side by side. His bedroom also is testament to his love of gadgets and unique design. It contains many interesting items. The tour then moves to the parlor with its grand design and décor. It has a beautiful view of the sweeping lawn and garden from large windows and bay portico glass door. A few other rooms on the first floor are on the tour, including the dining room. The second floor isn't on the daily tour, and only viewable on special tours.



Slave quarters are located below the villa terrace level. This lower level also contained utilitarian rooms such as the kitchen, wine cellar, and privy.

We passed an interesting tourist attraction to and from Monticello. Mitchie Tavern built in 1784. It's surrounded by other historical buildings including a working Mill. Sadly we didn't stop there. I Googled the name and found out the Tavern is now a restaurant which sells great looking southern fried chicken and cornbread.



Mitchie's Tavern Built 1784

After leaving Monticello we headed to the Omni hotel in Charlottesville. After checking in, and taking a short walk through the surrounding shopping district, we went out to dinner on the other side of town. We all packed into a long room at the restaurant. Learned more about our tour guide who previously worked as a white water rafting guide in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, and also worked as a whale watching guide in Alaska.

Next time Shenandoah National Park and Gettysburg.



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Posted by [Annette](#) at [12:51 PM](#) 2 comments: 

Wednesday, October 26, 2016

## Jamestown Settlement vs Jamestowne Historical site & Colonial Williamsburg



On day two of our bus trip through Virginia, with Trafalgar, we started our day slowly piling out of the bus at the Jamestown Settlement (I should say coach lol. Our tour guide kept saying bus, which is a no, no. She has to pay the coach driver every time she said bus). It was a beautiful morning. I had been anticipating this particular visit for 6 months. I have a mini obsession with Jamestown, and a crush on the archeologist William Kelso. I've been reading and watching documentaries about the history, and the dig, for years. I went over some of the old material about Jamestowne in preparation for my trip.



After all the obsessing about the place I couldn't believe I was finally there. Then I had a rude surprise when I found out that I wasn't. No Jamestown Settlement is a recreated living history site. My heart sank. We weren't going to the original settlement site. I feel like there should be some sort of explanation at the Trafalgar site regarding the fact you will not be going to the original site. I found out the original site was a mile away. I pulled our tour guide aside and said I would like to leave the group and go to the original site. She said there was no easy way of getting there from where we were. It would be a difficult 1 mile walk. I decided to follow her suggestion, and take this tour, and later get a taxi from Colonial Williamsburg to the original site.

At Jamestown Settlement we toured a museum before going out to the recreated living history site. I didn't find the museum very interesting, honestly. The guide explained facts that most of us already knew. This museum and tour would be good for school children. We then went out to look at the Native American Village. I thought the recreated hut was interesting (I hear someone's child cried when they saw the dead animals in the hut? Maybe she's from a family of vegans?).



We then headed out to look at the replica ships, which were smaller than I expected. I thought they were very cute. We took a quick tour through one of them. Interesting to see the cramped conditions. I thought the ships were pretty to look at, but I wasn't blown away by them.

After the ships we went to the fort with its recreated buildings. To me this was the most interesting aspect of the living history settlement. It gives you a good idea of how the earliest Jamestown settlers lived. I wouldn't recommend this settlement museum otherwise.





Tiny girl preaching from the pulpit



I wonder how many people visiting this museum settlement realize this isn't the original Jamestowne site? Our guide even seemed to dismiss the historic site as unproven?

We headed to Colonial Williamsburg after Jamestown Settlement. It was still very early since started off so early that morning. I decided to tour Williamsburg before taking a taxi to the original settlement. I loved it!

**Williamsburg** was relevant to the lives of our Virginia ancestors due to the fact it was the seat of Colonial government. The colonial seat moved from Jamestowne after a fire in 1698. The state house had been located in Jamestown for 92 years.

The Colonial legislative assembly, the House of Burgesses, was the first assembly made up of elected representatives in North America. Their state house was located in Williamsburg.

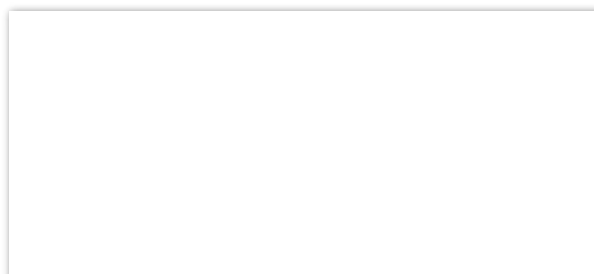
I first headed toward a church which was closed for a service. I looked around the interesting old cemetery, then decided to head over to the Governor's Mansion, and return to the church later.





After touring the Governor's mansion I toured one of the remaining original colonial era homes. I toured the Brush/Everhard house which was built in 1718 by John Brush. It still has many original features. Clues to it's early wallpaper and other décor have been discovered beneath many renovations.

The second owner of this home was Thomas Everard who was mayor of Williamsburg in the 1760's.







Wattle and Daub Construction used in Timber poor England was largely replaced by wood frame clapboard siding construction in tree rich Virginia



Brush/Everhard House

Surprising bright green color. This is the original color, as are the bright colors at Mt Vernon





After my house tour I walked down to the state house at the other end of the settlement. Another interesting building. I enjoyed the atmosphere and other buildings on my walk over there. It was already 2 pm at that point. If I were going to make it to the original Jamestowne site before closing I would need get a taxi over there soon. I walked back from the state house a little faster. I needed to get to the other end of the settlement in order to get a taxi easily.

Even though time was running short I stopped at Bruton Church, which was now open to the public. Another of the original colonial buildings, it was built in the early 18th Century. Early Governor Francis Fauquier is buried beneath the church. The church served as a hospital during the battle of Yorktown.



I took one more look at the Governor's Mansion vista before taking a Taxi to Jamestowne.



I admired beautiful William and Mary College on my way to Jamestowne. Really scenic view going over to Jamestowne. Beautiful homes, and landscape.

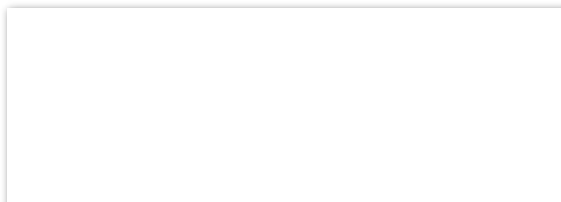
**On my way over to Jamestowne** I still didn't know whether I was going to the place called the settlement or the place called the historic site. I told the taxi driver the I wanted to go to the settlement. When we got there I realized I needed to go to the place called the historic site, and I rerouted the taxi driver. The mile drive to the site was through very isolated country side over a bridge crossing swampy land. I enjoyed the drive tremendously. Not hard to envision what greeted the original settlers in 1607.

I have not been able to trace any of my family back to Jamestowne. I'm still working out the origins of some of my family in Virginia. I do have a connection to James River as my Revolutionary War Veteran ancestor, Benjamin Wray, stated he was born in James River, Virginia. Not sure what he meant by that?

*If On this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October 1832 personally appeared in our Court before the judge in the County Court of Franklin now sitting Ben<sup>n</sup> Wray a resident of Franklin County born in James River Va. aged as he believes seventy five years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make*

Benjamin Wray born in James River, Virginia?

I got to the site at around 3:30. One museum closed at 5 pm. So I viewed that one first. It was small, but so much more interesting than the Settlement museum. It had many artifacts unearthed at the site.





Artifacts from the National Parks Jamestowne Museum



The view from the bridge to the historic site is primeval. Loved the views from the bridge.

The first thing to greet you on the other side of the bridge is a Tercentennial Monument. It's an obelisk, which was erected in 1907 to commemorate the 300 anniversary of settlement.





The original 1639 tower and reconstructed nave of Jamestown's Church





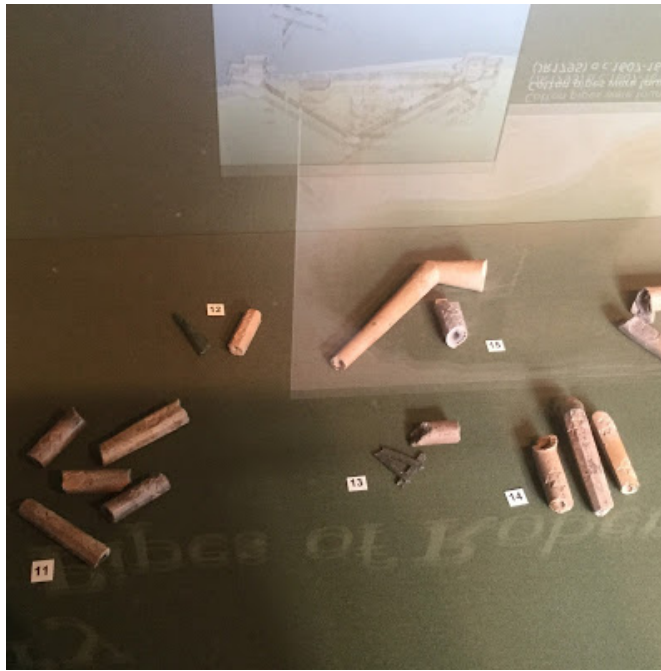
1909 Statue Of Jamestowne Governor John Smith



With time marching on I headed over to the other museum on the site. This museum contained more fantastic artifacts, and some human remains found at the site.







The pipes were interesting to see knowing how important they were to dating the site.  
The pipes had names carved on them. Great clues for archeologists.



Leaving the museum it was nearly closing time. I wondered if I would be able to get phone reception to call the taxi?





Sadly I got there late in the day and they weren't digging









Last view of the swamp from the bridge on my way out  
I could hear many nature sounds including frog sounds

I left just as they were locking the place up. I was able to call a taxi from this isolated. I sat out in front for about 20 minutes waiting for the taxi. I worried a little because it was getting dark. A ranger leaving asked me if I was alright? I said a taxi was coming. I was hoping. The walk out of there to the civilized world was over a mile.

I was so happy to see the English style taxi finally arrive. Below I'm heading back to the civilized world.



I arrived back at Colonial Williamsburg just in time for the Fife and drum parade. I was pretty exhausted at that point after visiting 3 sites, walking practically non stop. I rejoined the tour group for a performance at a local church. Slept well that night.

Next time, part 3, we visit Monticello and a Richmond church.



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Posted by [Annette](#) at [7:42 PM](#) [No comments:](#) 

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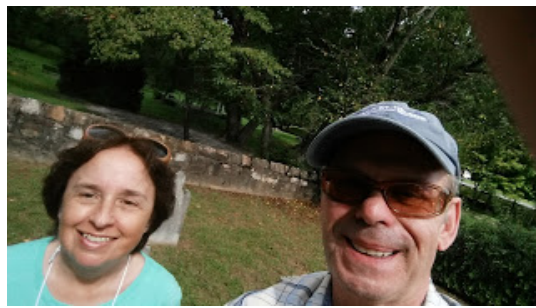
# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)
[My Pedigree Charts](#)
[Research Goals](#)

Monday, January 2, 2017

## My Year In Genealogy and What I Hope For The Coming Year



This was a year of travel for me. The travel began in December 2015 with a research trip to Nicaragua where I added a couple generations to my family tree.

I watched the taping of Genealogy Roadshow at Union Station in Los Angeles last January, where I met a fellow member of Genealogists in Second Life for the first time in person.



I spent a couple days in Edinburgh, Scotland in April, where I didn't do any research, but did set foot on the ancestral soil of many of my ancestors for the first time. I loved Edinburgh and the Scottish countryside. My trip also took me through England and Wales. I would love to find an ancestral connection to England. I likely could if I was able to trace all of my early American lines back to their origins, which I have not been able to do.

A trip to the ancestral area of Eastern Tennessee was also very memorable and enjoyable. I enjoyed meeting and spending time with distant cousins on my Forgey line. Cousin Ken took me to many ancestral locations. It was a very moving experience to finally see these locations in person. I also had a nice dinner with Ken and his father. I also visited Greene County, Tennessee as a part of the "First Families of Tennessee Reunion & Jubilee" gathering I attended on the same trip. I participated in their bus tour of historic areas. The



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**Arlene Eakle's Tennessee Blog**  
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Ancestors—Mostly  
Military Evidence  
Found in Early  
Land Claims  
1 week ago

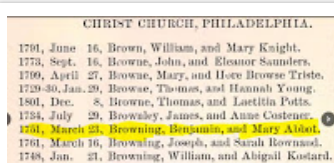
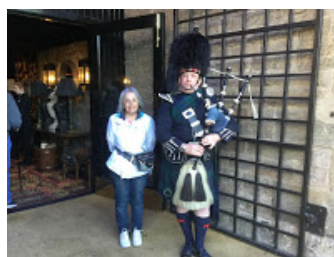


**Geneabloggers**  
Happy October  
2020  
Blogiversaries  
2 weeks ago

Followers

genealogy lectures at the "First Families of Tennessee Reunion & Jubilee" were excellent too. This gathering included some great entertainment, and exhibits on the streets of Knoxville.

A month after my August visit to Tennessee I visited Washington DC, Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania for the first time. I have several ancestral lines which settled in Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. An ancestral couple of mine married at Christ Church in Philadelphia. It was great to see that beautiful church in person. Jamestown and Colonial Williamsburg were other sites which brought the ancestors to mind.



Sadly this has been somewhat of a disappointing year on the autosomal DNA front. What I would like to do is map chromosomes using segment data. AncestryDNA still will not provide the information needed to make progress with this, and GEDmatch only has data for a small percentage of those who have tested at Ancestry.

The Forgey DNA Project does have one person in the BigY and YFull, as of this year. We have a new haplogroup based on this testing, I-BY3819. I did learn more about genetic genealogy by hosting DNA discussions in Second Life.



Island Fort Nicaragua

I ended 2016, like I ended 2015, with another trip to Nicaragua. I found a person who had heard of my Great-Grandfather Nicascio Del Castillo. He said he had heard he was a great man. He was excited when I mentioned Nicasio's name, and I was just as excited to hear from someone who had knowledge of him.

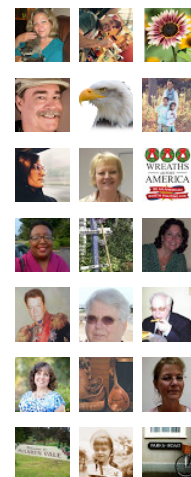


Me on top of Island Fort

#### My to do list for 2014 (I didn't make a list in 2015?) I did check off one task

1. I think my number one priority this year is going to be trying to find out more about the mysterious Alexander Forgey of Washington County, Virginia. We don't know who his

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► **April** (1)

► **March** (2)

► **February** (1)

► **January** (1)

► **2019** (16)

► **2018** (22)

► **2017** (31)



children are, and we don't know where or when he died? We lose all track of him in 1807. **Still looking**

2. While researching the Brower family I saw Brenneman given as Susannah Brower's mother Eve's maiden name. I can't confirm this. I would like some documentation for this? **Still looking**
3. I've been doing some Browning family research this year. I would like to find more documentation linking the Tennessee Brownings with Maryland. Also need to find documentation that Elizabeth Drane was Edward's wife. **I visited Greene County, TN. I've collected up more deeds for the Browning Family in Tennessee. Still only have circumstantial evidence for the Maryland connection**
4. I still don't have any photos of Frank Kappel and Mary Kurta, my great-grand parents, so I will be continuing to search for those. **Still no photos**
5. Another carry over from previous years is finding the death information for Patrick Mullen and Mary Huvane who died in Ireland. **I was able to find the death information for both Patrick Mullen. He died 13 Aug 1930 in Pollaturick Co. Galway Ireland. I even found the name of his mother, a detail I never even thought was possible. I was also able to identify the breed of dogs my family owned in Ireland, and what color they were, by using the Dog License register at Findmypast.**

Found Patrick Mullen on death register finally

6. The partnership of Ancestry.com and Familysearch will produced more records to search, and I plan on using them as soon as they are available. When I don't know? **Still no Virginia Wills or Probate records at Ancestry**
7. Another resolution from years past is learning more about my Nicaraguan ancestors. I did look into getting more information about them, but was disappointed to find out that the vital records office for Granada, Nicaragua doesn't respond to mailed in requests. You must request records in person. So finding out more on this line may mean a trip to Granada, Nicaragua? **I made a great deal of progress along these lines. Visiting Nicaragua twice has added names to the family tree. I've also learned much more about the culture of Nicaragua, and how they Celebrate the Christmas Holidays.**
8. I'll continue searching War of 1812 records as they come available. **Still waiting for the O's to be indexed and uploaded**
9. I've upgraded my cousin Darryl Kapple's Y DNA test, and should get the results in a few weeks.  
We'll see if there as any matches at 37 markers? **No 37 marker matches two years later.**

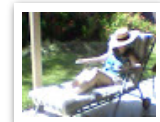
I didn't include my Owens research on the above list? I was able to turn a circumstantial lineage into one supported by documentation in 2015.

In 2017 I will continue to research the Nicaraguan lines. I will also try to find the elusive ancestral connection or connections with England. The surname Thurman may lead to England? In any case I would love to find out how my Thurman line is related to some close Y DNA matches. A connection to England, or just discovering my earliest line to arrive in what is now the United States, would be nice.

### My goals for the New Year:

- 2016 (24)
- 2015 (30)
- 2014 (53)
- 2013 (59)
- 2012 (76)
- 2011 (94)

## About Me



Annette

View my complete profile

## Feedjit

1. After collecting information on my William McPike ancestor this year I was left wondering if there was more than one man by that name in Tennessee? I will see if I can confirm that all of the deeds I found belong to my ancestor William.
2. I'll keep trying to find documentation for my Tennessee Browning family, and their connection with the Maryland Brownings.
3. I'm hoping to find John Thurman's parents and his relationship to close DNA matches. Court records might be key to this?
4. I need to add documents and documentation at Ancestry.com trees.
5. I was able to get the original copy of Christian Brower's will a couple months ago. I discovered all of his children aren't mentioned so I need the settlement documents, which do contain names.
6. As for continuing my Nicaraguan research I hope to make another, shorter, trip to Nicaragua for research purposes. **Some places for additional research** **A)** I have not inquired at the civil registration office in Granada, Nicaragua. Someone else did ask about a marriage record for my Great-Grandparents Nicasio Del Castillo and Elena Garcia. They couldn't find one. These records begin in 1879. It's possible they may have my Grandmother's birth record? **B)** More records are being indexed at the Municipal Archives Granada, more info may surface there? **C)** My family attended La Merced church and they have records going back go 1844. I need to press for more info from them. They may have a marriage records for Francisco Del Castillo and Alejandra Granizo, and Nicasio Del Castillo and Elena Garcia. They may have a baptismal record for my Great Grandfather Nicasio Del Castillo? I'm inquiring about a Baptismal record for my mother right now. **D)** A legal archive may contain my Great-Great-Great Grandfather's legal books. He may have recorded his own will in his law books? **E)** Leon Cathedral Archives has marriage records for Granada, Nicaragua dating from 1783 to 1850. Those records could provide the name of the elder Nicasio Del Castillo's wife. There is a marriage record for Nicasio Del Castillo dated 1848. That would not be a marriage to an ancestor of mine since his son, my ancestor, was born in 1842. It is possible this is a second marriage for my ancestor? I would be looking for a first marriage based on his birth year of about 1816, and the birth of his son Francisco in 1842. **F)** If nothing surfaces at La Merced church I will try Our Lady Of Guadalupe and San Francisco Churches in Granada.

**Happy New Year! Wishing everyone ancestral breakthroughs in the New Year!**



Me at the Active Volcano in Masaya Nicaragua (very windy lol)



View of my Ancestral City of Granada Nicaragua

Posted by Annette at 1:30 PM

No comments:



Saturday, December 10, 2016

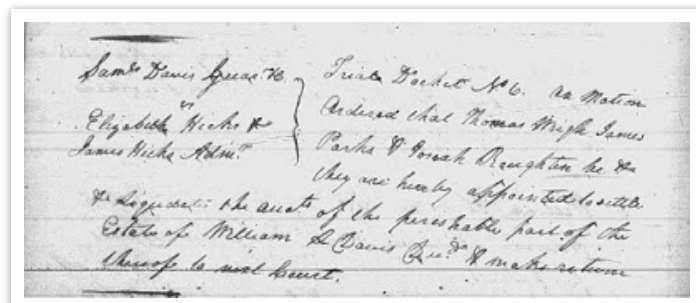
## Some Court Minutes (or court orders) Now Online At FamilySearch

I first discovered court minutes over a dozen years ago. My biggest breakthrough, with them, was identifying the name of an ancestor's spouse. I didn't know who Francis Owens' husband was until I found the answer in Bracken County Court Minutes. The minutes interesting and colorful information about the family, such as Anderson Wray being arrested for rioting, have been rewarding finds .

Some of these court minutes films are available online at [FamilySearch](#).

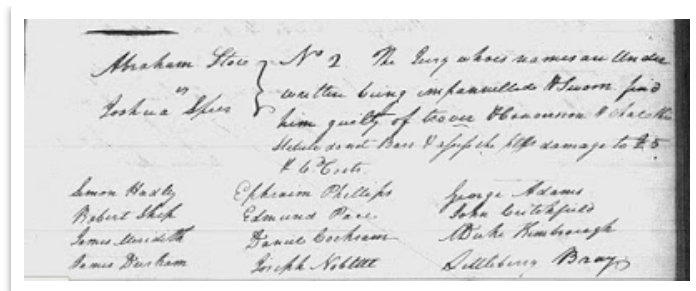
### What can you find in Court Minutes?

**1. You can find out whether your ancestors were involved in court cases.** If the minutes don't provide the information you are looking for you can contact the current courthouse staff and request a copy of the full court file. Sometimes these files no longer exist, or are no longer housed in the Courthouse. Some are now housed with local historical societies.



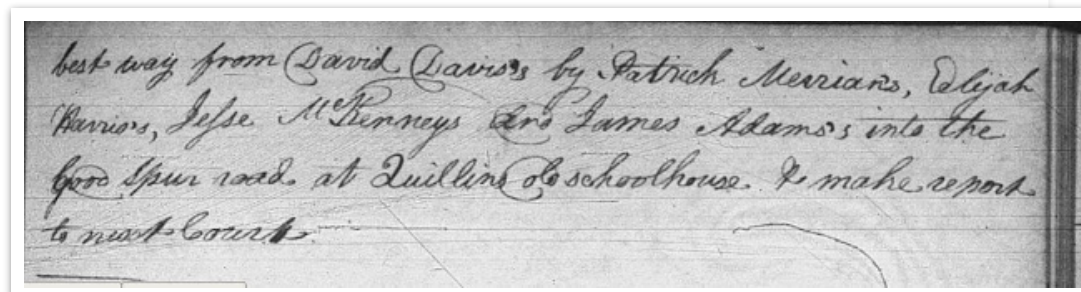
James Hicks married a widow. The above involves a case regarding the widow's first husband and children.

**2. You can find your ancestors listed as jurors.** This can give you clues about the years they lived in an area.



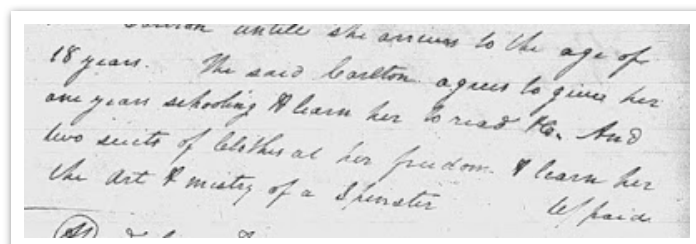
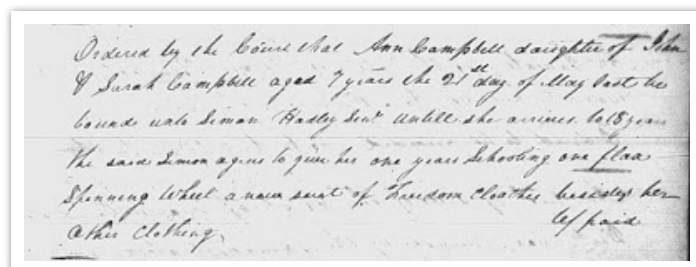
George Adams serves jury duty.

**3. You can learn about roads they worked on.** Males were required to perform road work for counties. They often worked on roads near their property. Road work orders can provide clues regarding where their property was located.



James Adams works on road near a schoolhouse.

**4. There are often apprentice bonds in court minutes books.** You can find out whether a female ancestor was instructed in the mysteries of the spinster, or your male ancestor was trained as a blacksmith. Sadly young children like the 7 year old girl, below, were apprenticed.



They did specify "one year of schooling & learn her to read" in this bond.

## 5. Bastardy bonds also appear in court minutes.

The State of Georgia by Foster Lawyers for a main-  
 Joseph Jones & tenance of a bastard child.  
 It is ordered by the Court that she be  
 allowed  $\pm 5$ :- & Vacation to issue for the said  
 sum & also  $\pm 5$ :- more & Vacation to issue at  
 the end of six months & that he enter into bonds  
 for keeping said child from being chargeable to the  
 County who thereupon did enter into bond accordingly  
 with Seth Jones & Samuel Adams Sec<sup>y</sup> to the chairman  
 & sureties in  $\pm 100$  Vide bonds filed

#### 6. Probate appointments, and even more detailed probate information such as inventories can appear in court minutes

Ordered that Administration of all and singular the goods &  
 chattels, rights, and credits, of James D. Owens, dec<sup>d</sup> be granted Fanny  
 Owens, (wife of the said dec<sup>d</sup>) upon her entering into bond with  
 Aquellus Horner security in the penalty of five hundred dollars con-  
 ditioned as the Law directs, gave Bond, and took the Oath required,  
 a certificate granted to obtain Letters in due form.

This is the probate document that named my ancestor Francis (Fanny) Owen's husband as James D. Owens. Bracken County, Kentucky court orders are now online at FamilySearch.

#### 7. Information regarding slaves appear in court minutes

inquire into the State of mind of Isaac Morrow  
 a Mulatto man & report whether he be a Lunatic &  
 Insane or not. The Sheriff returned the verdict  
 of the Jury being the same as to N<sup>o</sup> 16 on the left

Not sure if this Mulatto man is free or a slave? I don't wonder why he might have lost his mind, as stated in this record.

#### 8. Deeds proven in open court

Deed from Laban Hicks to Wm. Ausbourn was proved  
 by H. Chippel & ordered to be registered. *Chippel*  
 Deed from Lewis Brewer to James Brewer was proved by *Chippel*

Laban Hicks deed proven in open court.

#### 9. Appointment of Guardians

Samuel Gordon orphan of Thomas Gordon deceased came  
 into Court and chose his brother William Gordon his  
 Guardian who accepted as such and entered into bond  
 with Thomas Adams Security in the sum of £500 five  
 hundred pounds for his faithful performance as  
 Guardian. *Gordon*

Samuel Gordon orphan chose his brother to be his guardian.

#### 10. Appointment to local offices



Ordered in the room of Henry Slater.  
Ordered that John Adams be appointed constable in Billy District in the room of Adam Wolf.

John Adams was appointed Constable

## 11. Insanity reports

Ordered by the Court that the Sheriff Summon a jury to enquire into the Insanity of Milley Hopkins of this County and make report of the inquest to next Court.  
1791. The Sheriff returned the above report by which it was found that she was insane.

A difficult life for women in those days. No wonder poor Milley Hopkins lost her mind.

**12. Insight into what life was like in your ancestors community.** Below you see provisions for one year being provided to a widow. Interesting to see the salted beef, which was salted to keep it from spoiling with no refrigeration.

Being ordered by the Administrator we found no provision of any kind the three head of cattle we allotted the widow and recommended a further provision of three barrels of corn and 300 weight of good merchantable pork one bushel of salt added to the three head of cattle will be a sufficiency for one year.

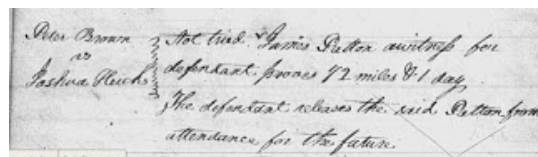
Here we see a prison being laid out. There was another report that the local jail was insufficient.

Surry County  
In obedience to an order of said County Court to me directed I have laid off the prison bounds in the Town of Rockford in the form represented in the Margin.

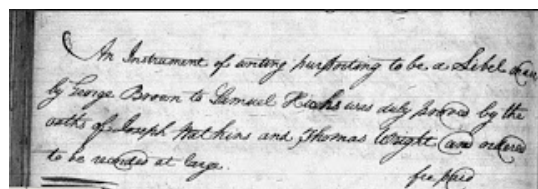
I've been paging through [Surry County, North Carolina Court minutes](#), now online at FamilySearch, in order to try to establish relationships between members of the Hicks and Adams families. Sadly Surry Minutes aren't indexed. We suspect the Samuel Hicks, appearing in local records, was to father of my Joshua Hicks. Other possible sons of Samuel were, William, James, Laban, and Benjamin. Relationship inferences are based on Samuel Hicks land transfers. We haven't found any documents stating relationships. Joshua's wife was Diana Adams. There were other Adams families living in the area, and I'm trying to find out which family she is from.

I have found many entries in the Court Minutes for the Hicks and Adams families, but none stating relationships to others. I found men in these families serving Jury duty, and performing road work service.

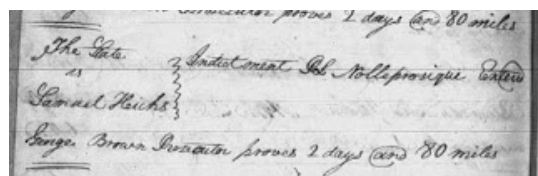
The most interesting finds were court cases involving Samuel Hicks and Joshua Hicks. I know they lived near a Brown family. Two of these cases involved Browns. Apparently the Browns and Hicks had a feud going. The minutes don't give any specific information other than there were lawsuits. I would like to get case files for these suits if they still exist?



Peter Brown vs Joshua Hicks



George Brown vs Samuel Hicks Libel



State vs Samuel Hicks

Hoping case files can be found? I'm so happy I can go through the couple thousand pages of the Surry Court minutes at home!

Posted by [Annette](#) at [11:40 AM](#)

No comments:



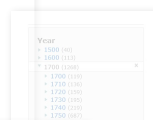
Friday, December 2, 2016

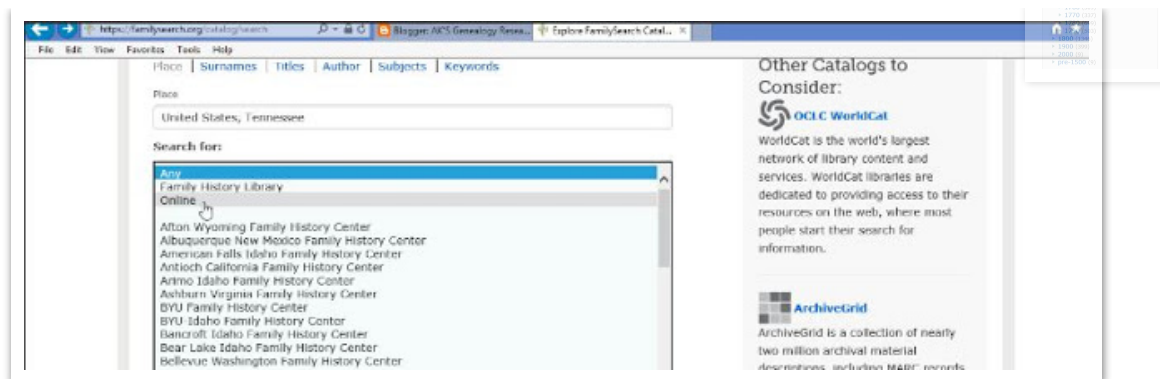
## An Easy Way To Find FamilySearch Online Digitized Content

When I was first told that much of the online content for FamilySearch wasn't showing up by filtering by state I didn't realize you can filter your search for online content alone. I've been filtering by Family History library recently. I've been looking for films located at the Orange Family History Library, and the Los Angeles Family History Library. When doing this I noticed a filter for online content. (In the past you could search the Catalog on CD's and find out if a local Family History Center had a film you needed in their permanent collection. I miss that.)



To search for only what's available online click on **search these family history centers** on the [FamilySearch catalog page](#). Click the second choice at the top of the menu, online.





Now that I know how to filter for online content I've searched using various jurisdictions. You can search the following jurisdictions for US:

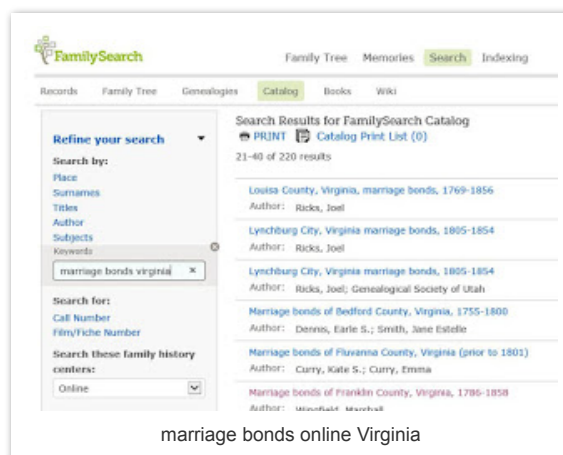
1. United States
2. State
3. County
4. Township
5. Town
6. City

You can also search records localities for foreign Countries filtering by online records.

I've also searched for tax lists by using the filters listed above the search box. I used the keyword search for tax. This brought up over 5,000 titles online. When you filter further by state you can eliminate a few thousand. You can filter by century and decade also.



I am interested in finding a marriage bond for an ancestor who probably married in Virginia in the 1780's. I don't know which county these ancestors married in? I'm using keyword search to find all marriage bonds available for Virginia online. I would like to find marriage bonds for a John Thurman married to a Sarah. I don't have Sarah's maiden name and hope to find a marriage bond in order to discover it. It looks like their eldest child was born in 1784? Their youngest was born in 1798. I can make a guess as to when they may have married based on this timeframe. I will look at the online marriage bonds for any marriages in this timeframe.



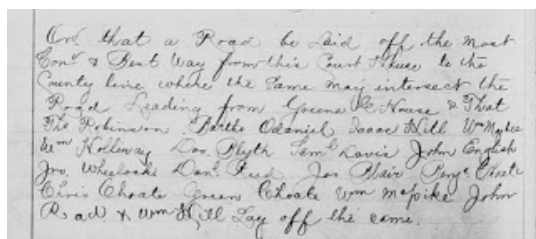
I found filtering doesn't always bring up all titles with online films. Filtering by county seems to

bring up the most complete list of online content. I found a Tax list for Washington County, Tennessee that didn't come up when I filtered for Tennessee tax 1700's. You have to search by various filters to find everything online.

Name	Property	Tax
William McPike	50 0 0	222 8 0
Robert Lusk	18 0 0	
Robert Lusk	7 8 0	

This 1779 tax list didn't come up filtering by Tennessee and year

Many of the films that have been digitized have either been indexed, and are searchable at FamilySearch, or the film has an index in the front or back of the book appearing on the film. I knew my ancestor William McPike appeared in a Court Order book, for Washington County, Virginia, when he was ordered to do road work. I didn't have the page number. I found the court order book online with no index. I really wanted a copy of the original entry. I searched for my copy of the transcription, I had, in order to get the page number. I was then able to get the original copy. I found I sometimes need to find an index elsewhere if it's not available through FamilySearch.



I wanted the original copy to verify the name Holloway also appeared in this road work order. Holloway is supposedly Obedience, William's wife's maiden name

Everything isn't online or searchable through an index yet. Since many of the films that have been digitized have indexes, or indexes can be found elsewhere, this hasn't been a serious problem. Even though a small fraction of the holdings of the Family History Library are now online it's still enough to keep me busy for a long time.

Posted by [Annette](#) at [4:36 PM](#) [1 comment:](#)

Friday, November 25, 2016

## Finally Some Deed Books At Family Search

I've been preoccupied with other things and had not been aware that some deed books are now digitized and available at Family Search. If you have early Pennsylvania, Tennessee or

North Carolina roots you definitely should search using your county names in the [Family Search Catalog](#) (for some reason you have to leave the word county out of the search?). Many of these newly digitized films don't appear when looking at what is available by state. If you search deeds by state you won't see them. Deeds books may contain the only information available, other than tax lists and probate, for your earliest ancestors.

The screenshot shows the FamilySearch Catalog search results for 'greene, Tenn'. The search results are displayed in a table with columns: Note, Location, Collection/Shelf, Film/ID#, and Format. The table lists several deed index and deed books, all from the Family History Library, United States & Canada Film. The format column shows various film numbers and a camera icon for digitized books.

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film/ID#	Format
Deed index, vol. 1, 1785-1871.	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	944411	944411
Deed index, vols. 2-3, 1871-1900.	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	944412	944412
Deed index, vols. 4-5, 1900-1929.	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	944413	944413
Deed index, vols. 6-7, 1929-1935.	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	944414	944414
Deeds, vols. 1-2, 1785-1797.	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	944415	944415
Deeds, vols. 3-4, 1797-1802.	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	944416	944416
Deeds, vols. 5-7, 1794-1826.	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	944417	944417
Deeds, vol. 10, 1836-1841 Deeds, vol. 8, 1806-1809.	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	944418	944418

Click the camera to see the digitized book

I've been going to the Family History libraries here in California recently looking at microfilms of records not yet online. One of the films in the [Orange Library Catalog](#) wasn't in the drawer where it was supposed to be. I asked a staff member and they told me films were being removed from the as they are digitized. Happily one of the films I needed is now online at Family Search and is searchable from anywhere (some digitized films or books are only available online at a Family History Center).

With only a small fraction of the 1790 Census still surviving for the Southern and Mid sections of the US land, tax and probate records are the only places we can find documentation for many of our ancestors in the 18th Century. Some of my ancestors left wills or intestate probate documents which have been very helpful in identifying family members. I had been searching for one ancestor's will in probate records and will books. I finally located it filed in a deed book. Deed books can also contain hand drawn maps which may show your ancestors property lines. They sometimes also contain marriage records, as I found in a Pennsylvania deed book. The records clerk could record anything he saw fit to in these books.

Instead of leaving a will some of my ancestors deeded their property to their children before they died. Often these deeds state they were in consideration of "love and affection." Some of the most valuable deeds are the ones listed in the deeds index as "et al", these were generally families selling parents' property.

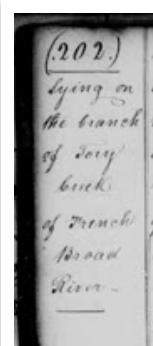
Since deeds contain a description of your ancestors property and who shared their property lines, they provide great clues to where the land was located, and who the all important friends and neighbors were. I visited Greene County, Tennessee last August and wondered where my ancestors Roger Browning and William McPike's properties were located. I didn't have any deeds to provide an approximate location even. After I found out that some deeds are online I searched to see if Greene County, Tennessee deeds are online. Happily I found that all of the books containing my family's deeds are online at Family Search. I had wondered if these men lived near the Davy Crockett family in Greene County, Tennessee? I now know they lived on the other side of the county. They lived about 11 miles away from



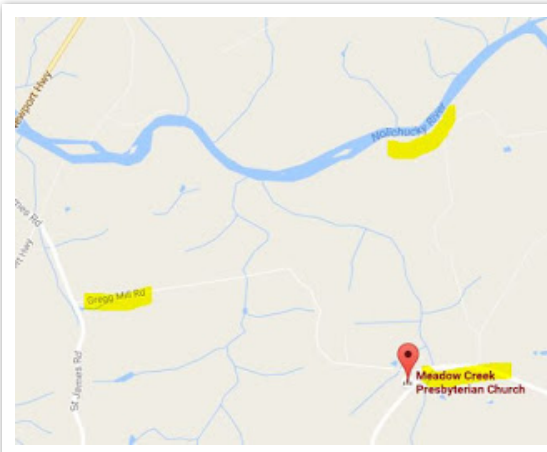
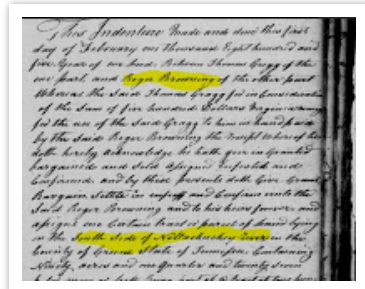
Greeneville. William probably did live closer to Greeneville and the Crockett property when he lived on the Washington and Greene County Line. Unfortunately the deed for that property didn't mention any water courses.

My ancestor Roger Browning purchased his property from Thomas Gragg or Gregg (this family married into the Browning family).

GRANTEES				GRANTORS		DATE OF DEED			RECORDED	
SURNAME	DATE	STATE	COUNTY	SURNAME	DATE	MONTH	DAY	YEAR	BOOK	PAGE
BROWNE				HEWMA JON					LOT 7	60
BROWNE				DOHERTY GEORGE					100	7 73
BROWNE				DOHERTY GEORGE					90	7 89
BROWNE				DOHERTY GEORGE					92	7 125



The land is described as being on the Nolichucky river and Meadow creek. From this information I can surmise that the land was probably near a road now called Greg Mill.

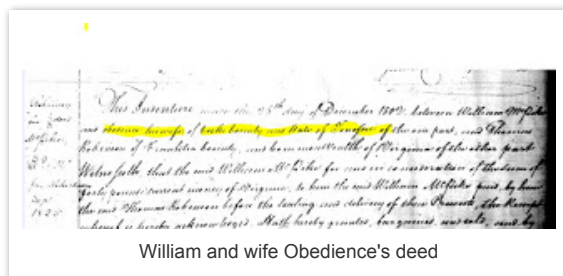


I did see the Nolichucky river while I was in Greene County. It's stretches through the length of the county so it's hard to miss. Davy Crockett's family lived on the Nolichucky on the other side of the county.

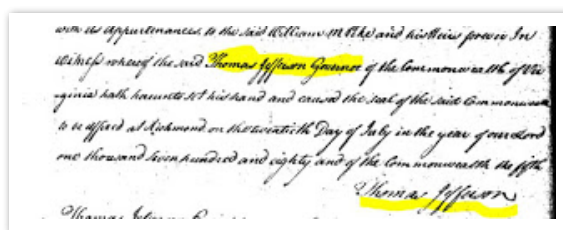


A baptism on the Nolichucky River

Sadly Virginia is a state that has been completely neglected by Family Search as far as digitizing. I continue to search both probate and deed records using the old microfilms. I either have to order them, at the my local FHC, or travel to the Los Angeles or the Orange family history libraries. Since deed books aren't every name indexed I find it helpful to page through them looking for names. While doing this for Franklin County, Virginia an unexpected ancestor and his wife showed up. William McPike of Greene County and Cocke County, Tennessee. I had no idea he ever lived in Franklin County, Virginia. He never showed up on any tax lists or Census records for the area? How could I be sure this was my McPike family? Obedience was named as William's wife, and they were said to reside in Cocke County, Tennessee when the deed was executed.



The Virginia State Library's digital image collection does contain [Virginia Land Grants](#). I found the record for the purchase of William McPike's land there. It matched the number of acres and location in the sales deed. When he purchased the Blackwater River land it was then in Bedford County, Virginia. This area was later located in Franklin County, which was formed from part of Bedford.



Not sure if Thomas Jefferson really signed the deed my ancestor received?

Many deed indexes for Pennsylvania counties are now online. One of my ancestral locations is Chester County, Pennsylvania. Only a few deed indexes are available online for Chester. A complete index is available at the [Chester County, Pennsylvania local Government website](#).

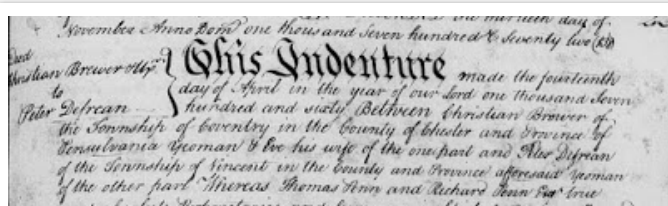
I found an "et al deed" on the Chester County index which appears to be children selling parents property? It's a Jacob Urmey ux Susanna et al deed. Sadly this isn't in a book that is online at Family Search. The coverage of deeds is spotty. You have to scroll down to see which books are still only on microfilm and those that are online.

Urmey	Jacob	County	Susanna	et al	Rudolph	Harley	County	1806	Deed	A-3	199
Urmey	John	Pikeland	Catharine	David	Hettard	Pikeland	1796	Deed	I-2	172	

Sussana et al

I was able to find a deed for my ancestor Christian Brower which had been digitized. His wife Eve is also named in the deed. The name of a wife is really important information when trying

to verify who the deed refers to, or establishing the name of a wife. Sadly in states like Tennessee the wife's name was generally not recorded in deeds.



Christian Brower and wife Eve are recorded in this deed

The digitized deed books are scattered. Not sure what the order they are being digitized is? There doesn't seem to be an order? Family Search isn't the only place to find deed books or deed indexes. Some counties have these books online. State websites often have land patents and grants online.

It really pays to search the Family Search Catalog by county now since all microfilms are slowly being added. These can only be found by searching locally, and not by state.

Posted by [Annette](#) at [3:41 PM](#)

No comments:



Thursday, November 10, 2016

## Part 6 Philadelphia



### Part 6 Philadelphia

I spent a couple days in Philadelphia on this trip. I loved the wonderful historic character of the city. Our first capital put me in a proud patriotic mood. Felt very proud to be an American, and proud of my Pennsylvania heritage.

I'm not sure which ancestors actually had visited Philadelphia? All of my German ancestors, and my Forgey ancestors, Andrew Forgey and Margaret Reynolds, likely arrived in America at the port of Philadelphia. It's thought that Johann Roush may have lived in Philadelphia before migrating to the Shenandoah Valley. I did find a Johann Adam Rausch on Philadelphia substitute censuses up to 1764. Not sure he is my ancestor? It was thought he had migrated to Virginia by 1764? When Johann Adam Roush arrived in America he took the oath of allegiance in a Philadelphia Court House.

Many of the buildings in the historical core are reconstructions, like Colonial Williamsburg. Independence Hall is largely a reconstruction. There are some walls, in Independence Hall, which are original. The first Continental Congress was held at Carpenter's hall which is one of the few remaining original buildings in the historical core of the city. This building was completed in 1774.



Carpenter's Hall built in 1774

**Within these Walls Henry, Hancock, & Adams inspired the Delegates of the Colonies With Verve and Sinew for the Toils of War**

Inscription over south doorway of Assembly Room





Christ Church is another of the original structures in Philadelphia. The church was built from 1727 to 1744. George Washington, Betsy Ross, and Benjamin Franklin attended church here. According to the Pennsylvania Archives records my ancestors Benjamin Browning and Mary Abbot married March 23, 1751 in Christ Church. So exciting to see that church. It's one of the most beautiful churches I've been too.

CHRIST CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA.		
1791, June 16,	Brown, William, and Mary Knight.	
1773, Sept. 16,	Browne, John, and Eleanor Samuels.	
1709, April 27,	Browne, Mary, and Hove Browne Tride.	
1729-30, Jan. 29,	Browne, Thomas, and Hannah Young.	
1801, Dec. 8,	Browne, Thomas, and Laetitia Potts.	
1754, July 29,	Browley, James, and Anne Costene.	
1751, March 23,	Browning, Benjamin, and Mary Abbot.	
1791, March 16,	Browning, Joseph, and Sarah Rowland.	
1748, Jan. 21,	Browning, William, and Abigail Kostard.	

Ancestors' marriage Christ Church



Christ Church



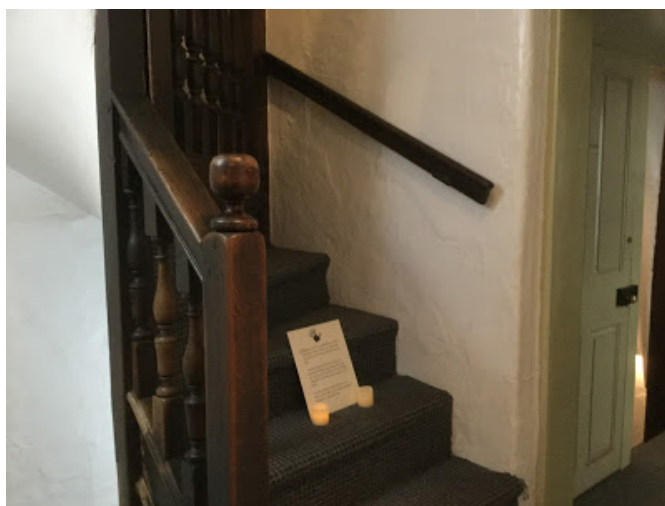






Ben Franklin's grave with pennies tossed on it for good luck.  
Actually a penny saved is a penny earned so he would be against this.

The historic Betsy Ross house was wonderful to tour. It was so interesting seeing what the 17th Century townhouses looked like inside. Very cramped small staircase. Probably not comfortable for tall people. Betsy likely didn't live here, but probably lived in an adjacent house.









Elfreth's Alley, according to Wikipedia, is our nations oldest street dating back to 1702, with homes built from 1728 to 1836. This street would have been in existence when my ancestors arrived at the port of Philadelphia.









Below is picture of the foundations of the Slave quarters of the Presidents Home in Philadelphia. George Washington lived in the Presidential home from 1790 to 1797, and John Adams from 1797 to 1800; these foundations have also be excavated ([see youtube film](#)). The house had an interesting history even before the Presidents made it their home. It was built in 1767. It housed General Howe during the British occupation in 1777 and 1778. After the British were driven out of the city Benedict Arnold lived in the house.



Quaker Meeting House was built between 1804 and 1811

When I went to Europe last April I changed planes in Philadelphia. I saw all the Liberty Bell souvenirs for sale, and I wanted so badly to go and see it. It was so nice to finally see it. We have a replica here in Southern California at Knott's Berry Farm, along with a replica of Independence Hall. I remember visiting Knott's Berry Farm on a field trip with my school and enjoying learning about the founding of our country. An audio reenactment of the debate which led to the signing of the Declaration of Independence is presented there. I was very inspired by that presentation which made finally visiting Philadelphia even more special.



We stayed at a hotel near the reconstruction of Philadelphia's famous City Tavern. It was called the "most genteel tavern in America" by John Adams. It was frequented by the Founding Fathers. It was originally built in 1773. Two hundred men gathered there in 1774 in response to the port blockade of Boston harbor by the British. This restaurant/tavern has a great atmosphere with period costume dressed servers.



City Tavern

Moving on to some more modern additions to the city. The steps Rocky ran up are a favorite with tourists. These 72 steps lead to the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Across the street is the Washington Monument. This is a beautiful collection of bronze statues with Washington on horse back as the central figure. It was dedicated in 1897. The view of City Hall is particularly striking from here.



Rocky steps









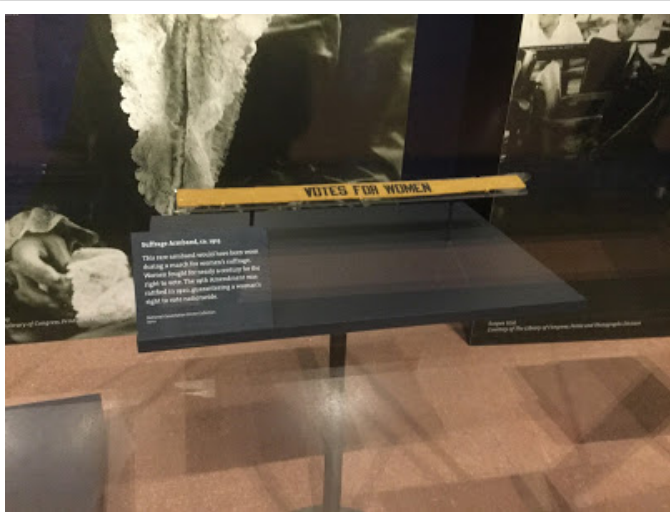


The National Constitution Center, across from Independence Hall, provides some interesting museum displays with artifacts which belonged to the Presidents. Great views of Independence Hall also. The center also has a dramatic performance about the Constitution and its continuing relevance to our lives.

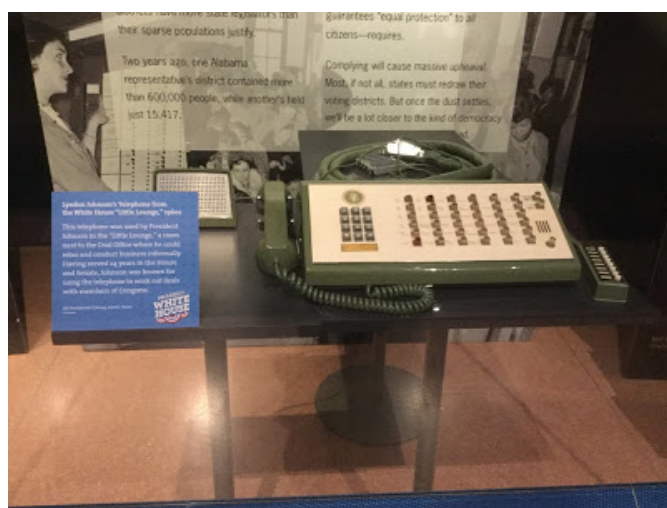
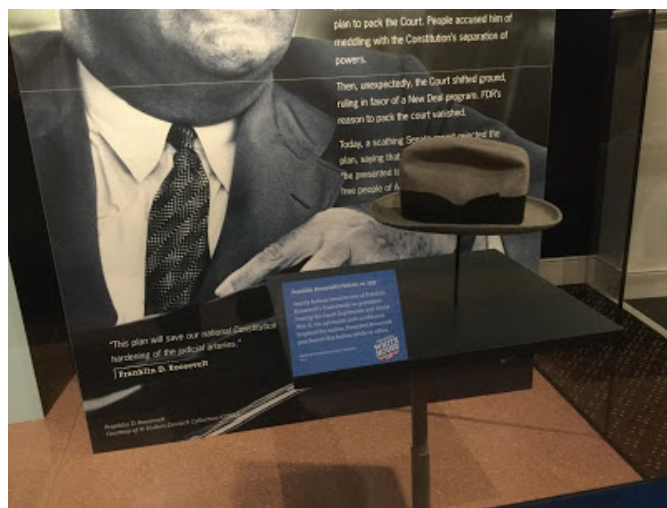


National Constitution Center



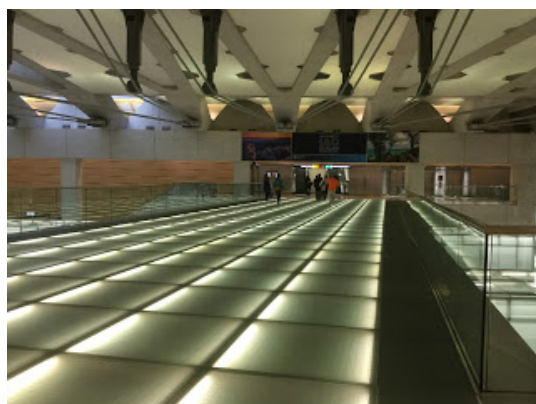








I'm looking forward to visiting Philadelphia again. I didn't feel like a couple days was enough. So much interesting history and personal ancestral history.



Dulles Airport

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Posted by **Annette** at **5:41 PM**

No comments:



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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)[My Pedigree Charts](#)[Research Goals](#)

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

## Evaluating AncestryDNA Matches

**AncestryDNA** now has 4 million testers, making their database of testers the largest in the field. The new numbers caused me to think about what this large comparison database has done for my genealogy?

I've written many times about how I work with my DNA results. I've been using segment data to build a chromosome map with "**Genome Mate Pro**". That got me thinking. Without the segment data what has AncestryDNA provided me with? I have been able to verify my paper trail based on some strong matches at Ancestry. By strong matches I mean they share a substantial amount of DNA.

These days I generally only look at the matches predicted to be 4th cousins or closer. Actually I generally only feel most interested in 3rd or closer. Just out of curiosity. I always hope they might be persuaded to upload elsewhere. It's also interesting to see how we are related. I have no brickwalls in those generations however. Without the segment data they provide nothing of genealogical relevance. So far they've provided me with no additional family information either. Some have had basically no information at all and are adopted, or are estranged from their birth families. Maybe some day someone will come forward with some pictures or additional info?

I received a message from a match that I sent a request to compare with at **GEDmatch**. I got her reply yesterday. She basically said she was afraid GEDmatch wasn't secure enough. She also said she didn't see any use for segment data. She made connections at AncestryDNA without it. I explained that if your match doesn't have a large family tree you won't know if you are related to that person on more than one family line.

To get a clearer picture regarding what I've gotten and what AncestryDNA, sans segment data, can provide I decided to take a look at how many matches actually have a tree with an ancestral couple related to me. I searched using the hints filter.



Search This  
Blog

 Search

## My Blog List



**Arlene Eakle's  
Tennessee Blog**  
Tennessee  
Ancestors—Mostly  
Military Evidence  
Found in Early  
Land Claims  
1 week ago



**Geneabloggers**  
Happy October  
2020  
Blogiversaries  
2 weeks ago

## Followers

Instead of using my results I used my mother's. My father had a great deal of immigrant ancestry, with some French Canadian. I'm related to most French Canadian matches on several lines, making identifying the common DNA ancestors impossible.

First Cousins

None

1st Cousins once removed

2

2nd Cousins once removed

1

3rd Cousins and once removed

24

4th Cousins and once removed

41

5<sup>th</sup> cousins and once removed

20

6<sup>th</sup> cousins and once removed

43

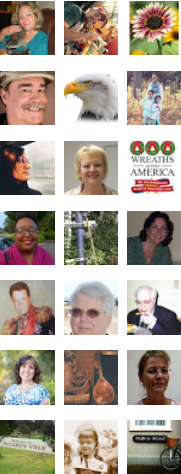
7<sup>th</sup> cousin

1

According to AncestryDNA my mother has four 3rd cousins. Her age probably threw the calculations off. Instead she has 24. Most are once removed, but a few are 3rd cousins.

Taking this a step further how many family lines are represented? Out of the 135 matches that have an ancestral couple matching, 79 are from one family. The Roller/Zirkle family. More than half.

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  - June (2)
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  - April (1)
  - March (2)
  - February (1)
  - January (1)
- 2019 (16)
- 2018 (22)
- 2017 (31)

		40
	20 <b>Johannes Roller</b>	
	b: 1726	41
	d: 1816	
	21 <b>Anna Acker</b>	42
	b:	43
	d: abt 1787	
10 <b>Jacob ROLLER</b>		44 <b>Johann Ludwig ZIRKLE</b>
b: 14 Feb 1762		45 <b>Maria Eva Bear</b>
p: Rockingham Co., VA		
m: 30 Mar 1791		46 <b>Johann Adam ROUSH</b>
p: Rockingham, Virginia		
d: abt 1861	22 <b>Lewis ZIRKLE</b>	47 <b>Susanna Sehler</b>
p: Scott Co., VA	b: abt 1740	
11 <b>Eva ZIRKLE</b>	d: 1815	
b: abt 1773	23 <b>Mary Magdalene ROUSH</b>	
p: Shenandoah County, Virginia	b:	
d: 21 Apr 1858	d:	
p: Scott County, Virginia		

- 2016 (24)
- 2015 (30)
- 2014 (53)
- 2013 (59)
- 2012 (76)
- 2011 (94)

About Me



Annette

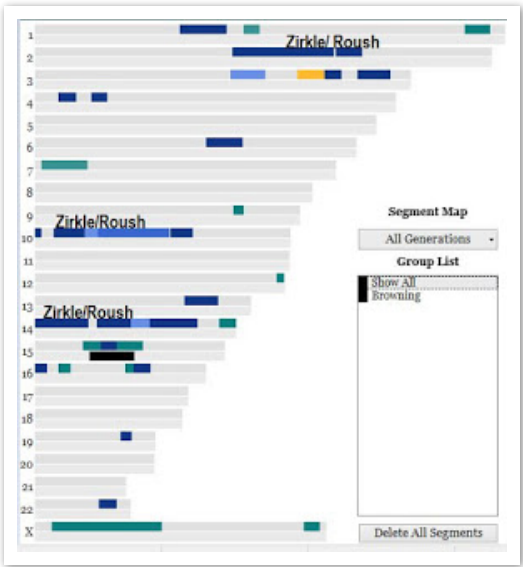
[View my complete profile](#)

Feedjit

Fifty-six other matches, with matching ancestors, are scattered throughout other families, with Browning the second most represented.

Eve Zirkle was my mother's 3rd great-grandmother, and over half of the Roller/ Zirkle matches appear to descend from her. According to the book "Genetic Genealogy in Practice", by Blaine T. Bettinger and Debbie Parker Wayne, a third great-grandparent could share as much as 3.125%, on average, with you. Looking at my chromosome map it does look like Eve Zirkle shares that amount, or more, with my mother. Did she get more than the usual amount of DNA from Eve Zirkle, which would account the overwhelming number of matches coming from this family? Her matches are with both Zirkle, Eve's father, and Roush, Eve's mother's family.

I've marked the Zirkle/Roush matches segments on this map:



To answer the question whether 3rd great-grandmother Eve Zirkle contributed more than the average of 3.125 percent of DNA I needed to see what that amount of sharing would look like in a chromosome browser.. Here is roughly what an around 3.125% share would look like.



If the chromosome lengths are about accurate it does look like my mother may have inherited a little bit more than the average DNA share from her 3rd great-grandmother. The Zirkle and Roush family tended to marry cousins, which could account for more than average amounts of DNA passed down.

What has this demonstrated to me? Zirkle/Roush descendants predominate my match list, and using the shared match feature the Roller/Zirkle, and Zirkle/ Roush, numbers overwhelm all other matches. This is true at the other companies also

I do believe if AncestryDNA provided a segment data sharing option I could fill in the chromosome map for other family lines, which are less well represented. Without the segment information over 1000 matches aren't connected with any family because they lack large enough trees, or have no trees at all. You can jump to conclusions using the shared match feature, but you never know whether you're related to someone more than once? Or it's a coincidence you share the same match? A segment map is the only way to confirm which line someone is related on.

Out of the 135 matches, with matching tree ancestors, only about 15 have uploaded to a place where we can compare segments.

During this exercise I did find a couple more matches who have uploaded elsewhere. One of these matches shares two different family lines with me. One being the Zirkle/Roush line. Adding her information to "Genome Mate Pro" I was able to determine she matches through Zirkle/Roush, and not my Browning line.

At this point I continue to check for close matches at AncestryDNA out of curiosity, and in hopes someone may come forward with more information. I also check for my brickwall Campbell line, which so far hasn't produced any results. I keep checking GEDmatch for more AncestryDNA matches. Sadly few AncestryDNA matches upload there, and the ones who do can't be easily found on the AncestryDNA match list. They also often don't have good trees, or any trees posted.

The last point I would like to make is I used the Google chrome extension to come up with the many of the facts I presented. I was able to quickly search my notes, and search for user names. This tool provides better search capabilities than AncestryDNA offers..

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Posted by **Annette** at **2:54 PM**    **4 comments:**

Monday, April 3, 2017

# MyHeritage DNA: Comparing Longest Segments

I heard some negative reviews regarding MyHeritage DNA. I decided to compare their results with other companies who provide cM segment numbers. I'm mainly looking at the longest segment here. I should say I haven't purchased a kit. I uploaded my raw data using the free upload offer.

- Here we see a match who shares 16cM's on the longest segment according to Family Tree DNA, and 18.4 according to MyHeritage. According to Family Tree DNA the total cM's shared are 41. According to MyHeritage the total is 39.3 cMs. These are very typical differences between companies and GEDmatch too.

Match Date	Relationship Range	Shared Centimorgans	Longest Block	X-Match
02/14/2014	3rd Cousin - 5th Cousin	41	16	

Possible relationships	
3rd - 5th cousin	
DNA Match quality	
Shared DNA	0.5% (39.3 cM)
Shared segments	3
Largest segment	18.4 cM

- Here is a comparison of longest segments between MyHeritage and the others:

Company and Tester	Longest Segment		Company and Tester	Longest Segment
MyHeritage Tester DC	18.4		MyHeritage AG	29.6
Family Tree DNA DC	16		23andMe AG	26.2
<b>Difference</b>	<b>2.4</b>		<b>Difference</b>	<b>3.4</b>
MyHeritage JM	22.2		MyHeritage EP	28.2
23andMe JM	19.9		23andMe EP	25.3
<b>Difference</b>	<b>2.3</b>		<b>Difference</b>	<b>2.9</b>
MyHeritage RT	12.8		My Heritage DK	16.1
23andMe	8.7		23andme DK	14.6
<b>Difference</b>	<b>4.1</b>		<b>Difference</b>	<b>1.5</b>
MyHeritage JD	13.5		MyHeritage HK	23.5
23andMe JD	13.1		23andMe HK	22.3
<b>Difference</b>	<b>0.4</b>		<b>Difference</b>	<b>1.2</b>
MyHeritage BM	16.2		MyHeritage SB	32.6
23andMe BM	15.5		Gedmatch SB	30.7
<b>Difference</b>	<b>0.7</b>		<b>Difference</b>	<b>1.9</b>

I find the differences in the length of longest segments to be comparable when comparing between any two companies or GEDmatch. I wouldn't hesitate testing with them if they offer a chromosome browser. The only downside to testing with them at this point is a small database to compare with. I have only two pages or match while my mother has five. Hopefully they can attract many more people to test with them?



Posted by **Annette** at **9:22 PM**

No comments:



Wednesday, March 29, 2017

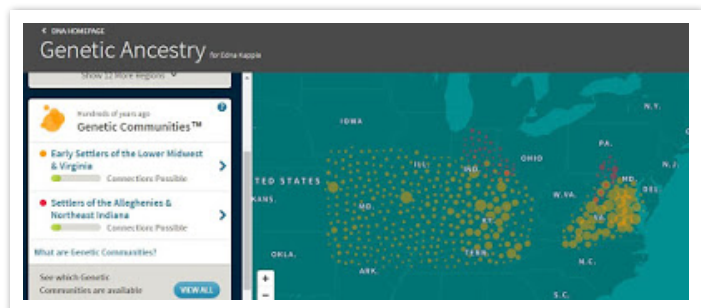
## My First Impressions of AncestryDNA's Genetic Communities

I first heard about AncestryDNA's genetic communities from the Roots Tech live stream in February. The communities were said to use Ancestry's large genetic data collection to group people according to locations, based on genetic data. These groups are called communities. Some communities are both regional and ethnically based.

I have to say I was disappointed when I finally saw my own results yesterday. I was disappointed because we were told of the possibility of finding unknown information, or additional confirmation of our lineages. I learned nothing new personally.

The biggest problem I see so far is much of what is illustrated on the maps presented basically just shows migrations of your cousins. Not information about your own ancestors.

Here is an example of the information provided for my mother:



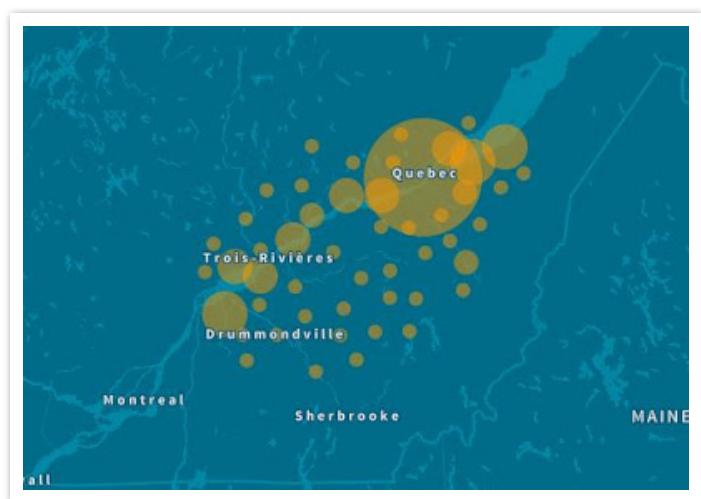
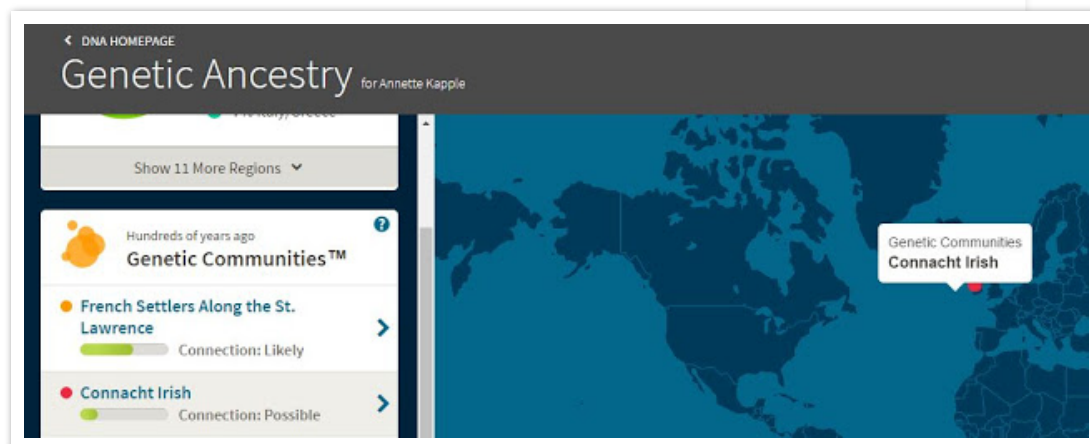
She has two communities Early Settlers of the Lower Mideast & Virginia, and Settlers of the Alleghenies & Northeast Indiana. The dots reflect mostly migrations of my mother's cousins. Her father's, Charles Forgey's, distant ancestors generally arrived in America through Pennsylvania prior to the Revolutionary War. All of his ancestors ended up in Indiana by 1820. My mother's genetic map covers all of those places. Dots also cover Missouri and Arkansas. Places my mother's ancestors never lived. Her distant cousins settled in those states. This could be confusing for people who don't know their ancestry.

I would like to see subgroupings for my mother. The lack of subgroups means the information as it stands is useless. The area covered is too broad. Odd my mom doesn't have an Indiana subgroup because her ancestors were all in Indiana by the 1820's, and some before that even? Her father was born in Indiana too. The family had been living in the Jackson County area of Indiana for 80, and more, years before my grandfather was born.

My mother's communities reflects half of her ancestry. Her mother being Nicaraguan. Oddly my mother isn't in the Nicaraguan community?

The fact my mother's father had early American roots seemed to help with the quality of her genetic community results. My results only cover a very small slice of my Ancestry. This presents a problems for adoptees and others who know very little about their heritage. They might assume the map shows all places of origin of their ancestors, or at least a significant portion. My communities reflect about 20% of my heritage. So 80% of my ancestral heritage isn't shown.

Here is what I got:



Unlike my mother I have no American communities. I also have two regions or communities. One is for Connacht, Ireland and the other Quebec, Canada, i.e. French Settlers Along the St. Lawrence. My great grandmother Helen Mullen-Mason was born in Galway, Ireland. This result reflects one of 8 great-grandparents. My great-great grandfather Peter (Pierre) Mason (Masson) was French Canadian. The Quebec result reflects one of 16 great-great grandparents. So like I said about 80% of my ancestry isn't represent.

The genetic community results are correct for my mother and I. However all of our ancestry isn't represented. In my case only a very small fraction. The cautions when looking at these results are they reflect migrations of cousins, and may represent as little as 1/8 of your heritage. After seeing these maps myself I felt more of a connection with the two regions than I really have lol.

It's hoped with more testers the results will get better? I think this will always be a better tool for some than others. There will always be groups underrepresented since everyone in the

world won't test with AncestryDNA. It may get much better for those with a great deal of early American ancestry, because that group tends to test more.

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Posted by [Annette](#) at [7:21 PM](#)    [1 comment:](#)    

Friday, March 17, 2017

## Irish Ancestral Sources



My Irish Great-Grandmother with her son and granddaughter

For many years I had no idea where my Irish Great-Grandmother Helen Mullen-Mason came from. I only knew she was born in Ireland. My father thought she was born in Cork, Ireland. That was a common misunderstanding as most Irish immigrants travelled from a port in Cork to the US. I only found out that was erroneous when I received a copy of her sister's eulogy which stated she was born in Co. Galway, Ireland. Her parents names were said to be Patrick Mullen and Mary Huvane, also according to the eulogy. I was thinking Huvane didn't sound like an Irish surname. I was told it was Spanish. I have since found out it isn't Spanish but a variant of a surname common to the area, Hoban.

### Here are all of the sources I've used to discover more about my Irish ancestry:

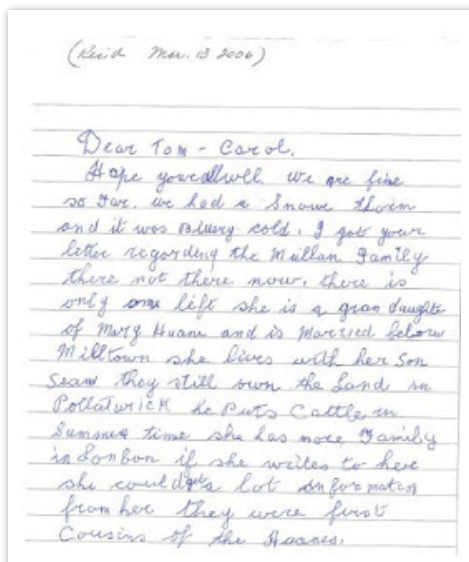
1. The first source I had access to was Helen's sister's Eulogy, naming their parents and place of origin. The **eulogy** stated "Mary Kathleen Mullen was born in County Galway, Ireland on February 1, 1888, just two months after Mary Frances Clarke died. The BVMs motherhouse was still St. Joseph's on the Prairie and Mt. Carmel was only a dream." Bridget Mullen, Sister Mary Kathleen, was a younger sister of my great-grandmother.
2. With the parents names was I able to find a **marriage record** for my Great Great-grandparents Patrick Mullen and Mary Huvane. The fact Huvane is so uncommon allowed me to find the correct marriage record quickly by cross referencing Mullen and Huvane. I

[illegible]

These church books are now searchable at the [National Library of Ireland website](#). You just need to know the name of the parish. Click on the microfilm you want to search, and a digital copy will come up.



4. Armed with this information I posted on Irish Genealogy [message boards](#). I found some posters with the unusual Huvane surname. I heard back from someone with quite a bit of information about the Huvane family. This family was from bordering Co. Mayo. The spouse of the cousin who answered my inquiry has provided me with a great deal of information. She and her husband have visited Pollaturick, and the Huvane (Huane) townland of Fallakeerin. She was able to get in contact with a cousin who wrote to her regarding the whereabouts of my living cousins. We now know that Tom Huvane and I are 4th cousins. We also match as 4th cousins at AncestryDNA.



[illegible]

**CENSUS OF IRELAND, 1901.**  
(See Examples of the mode of filling up this Table on pages 2a and 3a of the other side.)

**FORM A.**

No. of House No. 11

**NAMES OF THE MEMBERS OF THIS FAMILY AND THEIR TITLES, GRADES, RESIDUALS, &c., who slept on the night of EIGHTH, the Year of 1901.**

NAME AND RESIDUAL	RESIDUAL	RESIDUAL	RESIDUAL	AGE	SEX	RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD	RESIDUAL	RESIDUAL	RESIDUAL	RESIDUAL
John Muller	Head	Head	Head	40	M	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head
Mary Muller	Wife	Wife	Wife	35	F	Wife	Wife	Wife	Wife	Wife
John Muller	Son	Son	Son	17	M	Son	Son	Son	Son	Son
Elizabeth Muller	Daughter	Daughter	Daughter	10	F	Daughter	Daughter	Daughter	Daughter	Daughter
Thomas Muller	Daughter	Daughter	Daughter	7	F	Daughter	Daughter	Daughter	Daughter	Daughter

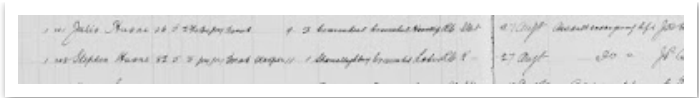
"Ireland, Prison Registers, 1790-1924," Stephen Huane, 1888

[◀ Back to search results](#)



name:	<b>Stephen Huane</b>
also known as:	
role of individual:	<b>Prisoner</b>
event:	<b>Imprison</b>
event date:	<b>1888</b>
event place:	<b>Castlebar, Mayo, Ireland</b>
residence:	<b>Creeveshal</b>
age:	<b>82</b>
birthplace:	<b>Shanvallyaghby</b>
estimated birth year:	<b>1806</b>
offense:	<b>Castlebar</b>
victim:	<b>Assault Endangering Life</b>





8. Relatives also appear in landed estate records at [Findmypast Ireland](#).

First name	Last name	County	Year	Source	View
James	Huane	Mayo	1851	Landed Estates Court Rentals 1850-1885	<a href="#">More Details</a>
Stephen	Huane	Mayo	1851	Landed Estates Court Rentals 1850-1885	<a href="#">More Details</a>
Thomas	Huane	Galway Mayo	1855	Landed Estates Court Rentals 1850-1885	<a href="#">More Details</a>

9. [Findmypast](#) Ireland also has **dog license records** which will tell you what kind of dogs your ancestors owned. I found out my ancestors had mostly black and red border collies. These dogs were working dogs for herding their sheep.

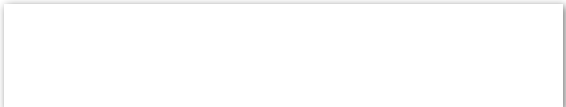


10. When the **parish microfilms** came online at the [National Library of Ireland](#) website I was able to get additional marriage information for my Great Great-grandparents Pat and Mary Mullen. This record was missing from the LDS microfilm I looked at. I found out Mary Huane or Huvane-Mullen was living in Ballindine, Mayo, Ireland when she got married. Something I didn't know.



Church marriage record book

11. I never thought I would be able to go a generation further back from my Great-Great grandparents because the parish registers for their parishes are in poor condition, and only go back to the mid to late 1800's. Happily I was wrong. Recently the **1851 Census of Ireland** has come online which has allowed me to go another generation back in time. The 1851 Census is actually a reconstruction. In my case its source is pension records. It contains the maiden names of Pat and Mary's mothers. You can search the 1851 Census at [The National Archives of Ireland website](#)



Full Names of Father and Mother of Applicant, *Pat & Ellen Mullen*  
 Name of Head of Family (if other than Father) with which Applicant resided in 1851. *(McQuade)*  
 Relationship and Occupation,  
 Residence in 1851:  
 County, *Galway*  
 Barony, *Dunose*  
 Parish, *Adaragole*  
 Townland, *Pollaturick*

1851 Census Ireland reconstructed.

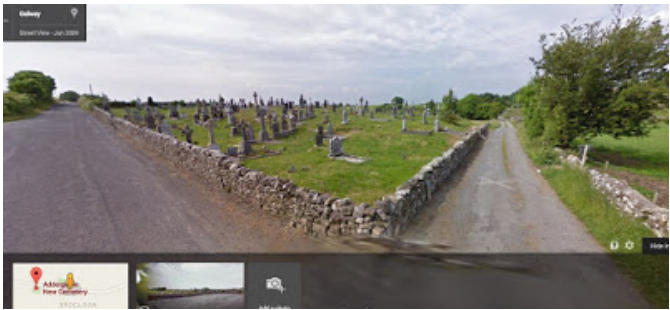
Full Name of Applicant, *Mary Mullen*  
 Address, *Mrs Mary Mullen, Pollaturick, Milltown, Thom.*  
 Full Names of Father and Mother of Applicant, *Tom & Bridget*  
 Name of Head of Family (if other than Father) with which Applicant resided in 1851. *Mullen*  
 Relationship and Occupation,  
 Residence in 1851:  
 County, *Laois*  
 Barony, *Carnew*  
 Parish, *Kilvine*  
 Townland, *Fallacra*

12. I was wondering when my Great great-grandparents died in Ireland, for years? I had absolutely no idea when they died or where? I found deaths of Patrick Mullens on the civil registration index at FamilySearch for Galway. I had no idea which one he might be? There were a number and I couldn't order copies from Ireland for all of them. I could not find anyone that appeared to be Mary Huvane-Mullen, however? Thankfully these civil registration records are now online! I was able to find the death record for Patrick Mullen he died August 13, 1930, in his home in Pollaturick. His wife was alive at the time. I still haven't found her death information?

You can find digital copies of the original [Irish Civil registration records](http://IrishGenealogy.ie) at the [IrishGenealogy.ie](http://IrishGenealogy.ie) website.

SECOND PART.									
Superintendent Registrar's District <i>Thom</i>					Registrar's District <i>Dunmore</i>				
18. DEATHS Registered in the District of <i>Dunmore</i> in the County of <i>Galway</i> in the Union of <i>Thom</i>									
No.	Date and Place of Death.	Name and Surname.	Sex.	Condition.	Age.	Religion.	Signature, Qualification, and Residence of Registrar.	When Registered.	Signature of Registrar.
18.2	18.8.30	Patrick Mullen	Male	Married	73	Thom	Patrick Mullen, Son of Patrick Mullen, Pollaturick, Milltown, Thom.	18.8.30	John J. Booth
18.3	18.8.30	Bridget Mullen	Female	Widow	64	Thom	Bridget Mullen, Wife of Patrick Mullen, Pollaturick, Milltown, Thom.	18.8.30	T. W. Booth
18.4	18.8.30	Pat Mullen	Male	Married	73	Thom	Patrick Mullen, Son of Patrick Mullen, Pollaturick, Milltown, Thom.	18.8.30	John J. Booth

13. When you have the townland names for your ancestors you can use [Google maps](https://www.google.com/maps) to take a street view tour of the townland. It's been very rewarding being able to see the area my ancestors came from using Google street view.



Cemetery in Google Street view where my ancestors might be buried



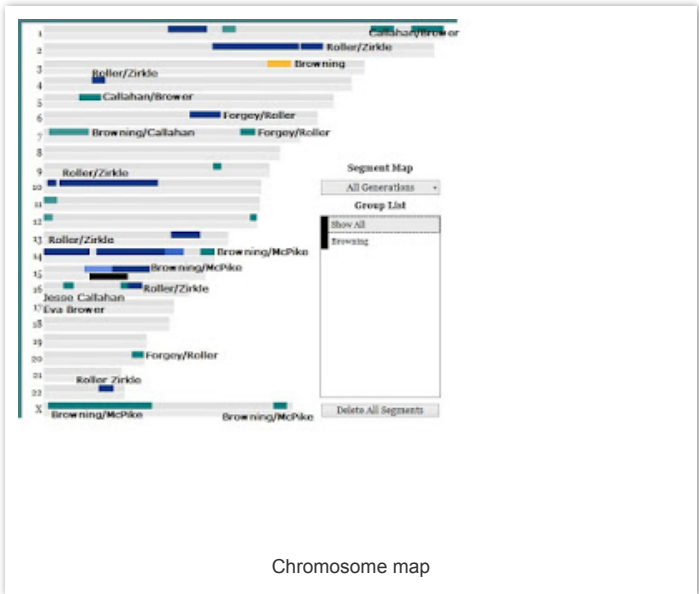
They still keep Border Collies

Success in Ireland comes down to knowing the name of the Townlands your ancestors are from. Once I had the townland I was off and running.

Posted by Annette at 4:49 PM No comments:

Wednesday, February 22, 2017

# 23andMe Has The Best DNA Tools: Advice On How To Use Them



The tools for working with matches at 23andMe are outstanding. The only drawback is the lack of response from matches. There are no trees at 23andMe, and few people have posted

ancestral surnames. I'm finding, however, if I can find a common ancestor with a 3rd cousin match I can identify segments which lead to resolving how many of my matches relate to my mother and I.

I've been able to identify 3rd cousin matches by searching for trees at Ancestry.com. I search using the member directory. Most 23andMe matches don't have Ancestry trees, however. They generally don't have trees at MyHeritage either. Most testers at 23andMe have little ancestral information, if any at all.

The best way to ID 3rd cousin, or 2nd cousins for that matter, is compare segments using **Genome Mate Pro**, or a spreadsheet. If you compare your matches at 23andMe with **GEDmatch** cousins, for instance, you'll find matches who have tested at all 3 major companies. Since AncestryDNA matches often have some sort of tree you can sometimes find matches with trees who share the same segment, or overlapping segment, with a 23andMe match. You may then be able to identify these segments as coming from common ancestors.

You can compare segments with all your Family Tree DNA matches, if you've tested with them, or transferred your AncestryDNA raw data over to them. You will find more trees and surnames at Family Tree DNA than you'll find at 23andMe. You may find segment matches and common ancestors comparing here.

Once you have a map with identified segments 23andMe matches will be easier to identify, even if they aren't sharing with you, or open sharing. The relatives in common feature will allow you to identify matches. I didn't copy the names for privacy reasons in the screenshots below.

The first shot below is from the common relatives feature, at 23andMe, displaying matches shared with a match I selected. This match is a 3rd cousin. The shared matches are 3rd cousins with me; as stated below in the first column. The percentage of DNA shared with me is also given. Column two gives the relationship of these shared matches with the match I selected. The first common match is actually the mother of the match I selected. The second common match is the uncle of the selected match, as stated below. The uncle isn't sharing with me, and has a different surname. I wouldn't have guessed their relationship with out the same surname. The fact the relationship is provided is so helpful. I have had contact with the person described as mother here. We have found common ancestors. So even without any surname information posted by these three I have determined how they are related. I have the shared segments for the mother and daughter and can marked them with the shared ancestral couples' surnames. These segments have helped me identify many more matches. I've been able to confirm some of these at Ancestry.com, with trees. I don't have the uncle's segments, but know how he is related.

3rd Cousin 0.80%	Mother 50.0%	Yes
3rd Cousin 0.73%	Uncle 25.3%	Sent Request

My mother and I don't have 2nd cousin matches at 23andMe so I'm focusing on 3rd cousin matches with substantial shared amounts of DNA. I'm using the large segments to infer how those sharing smaller segments might be related. Below you see a 3rd cousin match who is a 1st cousin to the match I selected to compare with. This would definitely lead me to believe we three share common ancestors. Both are sharing with me and share DNA in some of the same places on the chromosomes. I've marked their shared segments and again

have identified many shared matches who match in the same place on the chromosomes.

3rd Cousin 1.61%	1st Cousin 10.4%	Yes
Relatives in common feature at 23andMe		

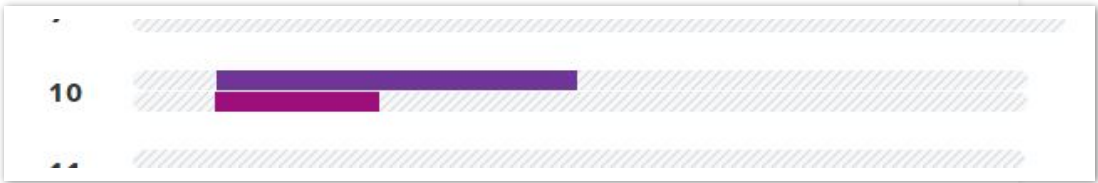
Below is a screenshot showing a 3rd cousin's stats who isn't open sharing, but is a common match with another match I selected. You can see I've sent them a request to share. Oddly this match shares a higher percentage of DNA, but is described as the selected matches' 4th cousin. The high percentage of DNA that we all share would lead me to believe there is a good likelihood that we are all related through the same ancestors. Below this good match I have a shared 4th cousin match who is described as a distant cousin to the selected match. They share very little DNA and the likelihood we all share the same common ancestors would be less likely.

3rd Cousin 0.55%	4th Cousin 0.63%	Sent Request
4th Cousin 0.70%	Distant Cousin 0.08%	Share to see

In the example below the match I selected is an open sharing match with everyone, as is one of our shared matched. Below you can see the stats for our common open sharing match. The "yes" next to this match means we share a DNA segment in the same place, and we can compare in the chromosome browser. This match has no posted information about their ancestors, or surnames. I have identified common ancestors with the selected match so I can infer this common match shares these same ancestors. 23andMe tells us these shared matches do indeed match each.

4th Cousin 0.82%	4th Cousin 0.46%	Yes
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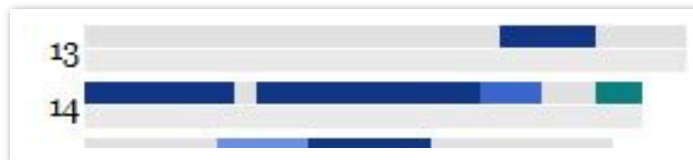
Here are the segments they share with me. They overlap and they match each other in the same place.



I have other matches in the same place on chromosome 10 who have the same shared ancestors. I can safely name the region after the shared Roller/Zirkle ancestors, who are the most common recent ancestors, MRCA. When I have matches with segments on chr 10, on my maternal side, I can assume if this is a true match, they must be related through the Roller line.



I have been able to nearly completely fill in chromosome 14 for my mother with segments shared by tree verified matches on her paternal side (her mother was Nicaraguan, and her father Anglo American). I don't share these matches on chr 14 with my mother. Looking at my own segment map I have Nicaragua matches here, not the Anglo American matches my mother has. I didn't inherit DNA from my Grandfather on ch 14. I cannot inherit segments from both of my paternal, or maternal, grandparents in the exact same place on a chromosome.



The 23andMe tools for atDNA are a joy to work with. They greatly aid us in achieving our goal of identifying how we are related to someone in an accurate way. You can't accurately identify how distant cousins are related without a segment map. We can be related to distant cousins through more than one line. A good segment map can find errors in our inferred DNA relationships, and point us to the correct DNA connection. The fact 23andMe shares predicted relationships between common matches also helps us solve relationship puzzles. Many have tested close relatives, we can identify these family group matches when we see their relationship to each other in the common relative lists. They may not share a common surname, but may be parent and child, or uncle and niece or nephew. Percentages of DNA shared are also helpful in determining how, or if, common relatives are likely related through the same ancestors. I wish all of the DNA testing companies had these outstanding features.

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Posted by [Annette](#) at [4:23 PM](#) 1 comment: 

Friday, February 10, 2017

## How To Get The Most Out Of DNA Segment Data

### Part 1) Why Segment Are Important And Tools For Working With Them

There are a number of free tools on the Internet which will allow you to visualize, in a graph format, and compare segments you share with your atDNA matches. This is important because the location, length, and overlap of segments with matches determines how likely a match shares a common ancestor within the genealogical time frame. Collecting overlapping, and shared segments, can help identify common ancestors even if a match hasn't posted a tree.

**Family Tree DNA** and **23andMe** provide the all important segment data. **AncestryDNA** does not. If AncestryDNA would provide this important information we could solve more brickwalls

with DNA.

Family Tree DNA and 23andMe provide chromosome browsers (a graphic representation of segments), which allow us to compare segments with up to 5 matches at a time. 23andMe allows us to compare match cousins not just with ourselves, but with our other matches. Family Tree DNA only allows comparison with matches who match ourselves, we can't compare match cousins with each other to see if they match one another, and by how much.

The downside of 23andMe is we can only compare our DNA segments with those who have agreed to share with us (blue dots), or have agreed to share with everyone (purple dot matches). For me that is 500 out of 1200 matches. Family Tree DNA allows us to compare with all of our matches, no agreement needed.

The chromosome browsers are useful, but it's often necessary to compare with more than 5 matches at a time. In this case there are online and downloadable tools which sort matches by chromosomes in an unlimited way. Sorting by chromosomes allows you to see overlapping and shared segments, which can help you to find common ancestors. Seeing all matches sorted that way allows us to find places, on each chromosome, where several people match each other. If they are on the same side, maternal or paternal, and share in the same place this is called triangulation.

Here are some tools which allow you to compare an unlimited number of matches sorted by segment in graph format:

1. **Genome Mate Pro:** This is the best tool for segment comparison. It does require you to download and install it. It's free, but a donation would be appreciated. You can upload all of your matches from the Family Tree DNA Chromosome browser page. You can upload the aggregate file from 23andMe's DNA Relative page. You can also upload matches and segment data from GEDmatch. This tool does require you to study the manual, or watch [YouTube](#) videos to use. It's more complicated than the other tools. This is the only tool that allows you to compare matches from all of the databases making the complicated time consuming setup worthwhile.
2. **DNAGedcom:** Description from site; "The Autosomal DNA Segment Analyzer (ADSA) is a tool that takes your data from Family Tree DNA or GEDMATCH and constructs tables that include match and segment information as well as a visual graph of overlapping segments..."
3. **Double Match Triangulator:** This tool is only for Family Tree DNA. It also requires you to download it. Not as complicated to use as Genome Mate Pro, but the spreadsheet layout requires you to have a spreadsheet program installed, such as Excel. It's also not as easy to navigate and compare as Genome Mate.

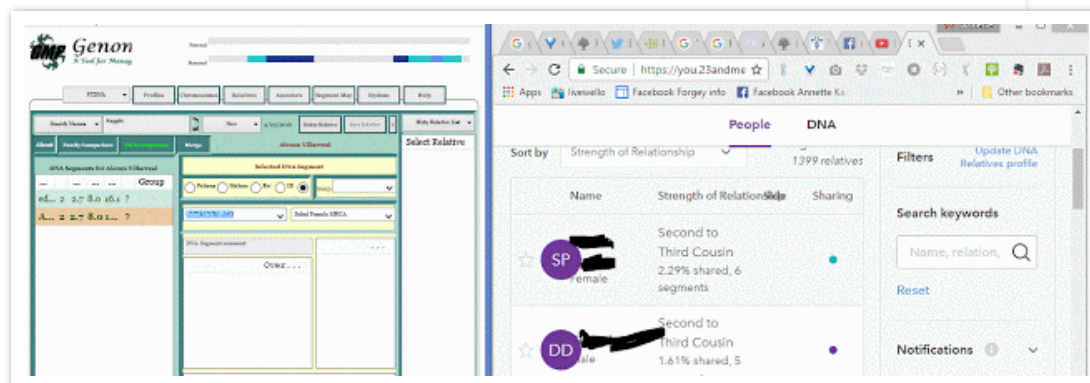
## Part 2) Working With Genome Mate Pro

This past week I've started from scratch at Genome Mate Pro. I lost some data when the program suddenly crashed. It's important to use the backup feature provided, in case it crashes. I decided to mark all chromosome segments according to which side the match is on, i.e. maternal or paternal grandparent they are associated with.. To do this I first had to filter the matches by my mother's side or father's side. Family Tree DNA and 23andMe provide that information if you have tested at least one parent (my mother tested).

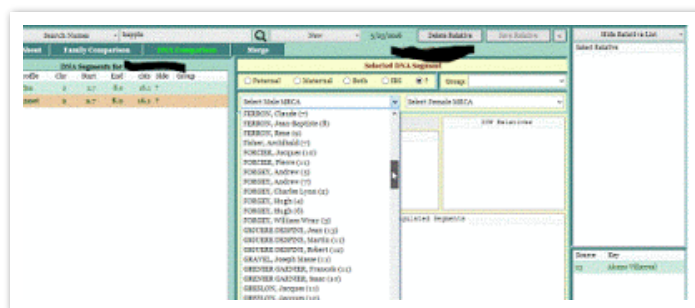


To the right, in the snip above, is a filter allowing you to display matches on you maternal or paternal side, if you've tested at least one parent. Since I tested my mother the options are

display matches on mother's side or not mother's side. What I did in this case was select matches on my mother's side then display Genome Mate Pro and the 23andMe windows side by side. I did the same for FTDNA.

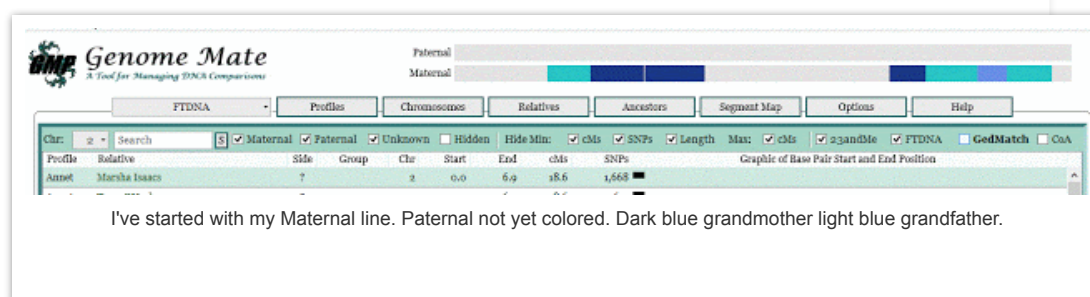


I would look up each ancestor listed at 23andMe, or FTDNA, then mark them as M for maternal. (so far I've only finished my maternal line). I would then select the most recent common ancestor shared with this match. If I didn't know I would select the most likely grandparent the match was associated with. I was able to do this because my maternal grandmother was Nicaraguan, my maternal grandfather was Scots-Irish and German.



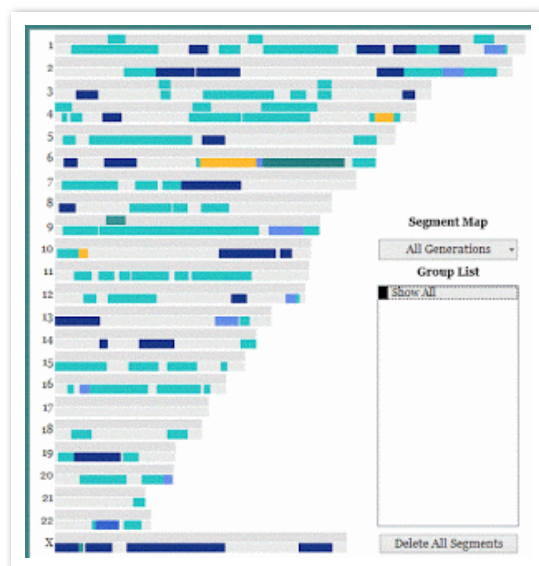
Initially I assumed all Anglo surnames belonged to my Grandfather, and Hispanic names belonged to my maternal grandmother. At 23andMe I had an advantage. I could check the ethnic makeup of a match to see if they had the typical Nicaraguan ethnicity percentages. I could also check at both 23andMe and FTDNA to see if they had Nicaragua listed as a place of origin. Another way to verify I was attributing the correct matches to my grandmother was the check to see if they had common matches who did have Nicaragua named as a place of origin.

After marking your matches M or P and ascribing them to the most recent common ancestor the chromosome graph at the top of each chromosome page will begin to be colored in showing exactly where on the chromosome each segment appears. When I started marking out my maternal line I selected my maternal grandfather for all unknown relationship matches with Anglo surnames, and looked up all Hispanic surname matches, then attributed the Nicaraguan matches to my maternal grandmother. This actually didn't provide the color coded separation I was looking for so I went back and instead selected my grandmother's several times great-grandfather so I would get a clearly different shade of blue, because I wanted to distinguish the segments I received from her from those I got from my grandfather. The navy blue segments are segments my grandmother passed down to me, and the light blues and other colors are those from my grandfather. I have not been able to identify the common ancestor for any of my grandmother's segments, I only know these matches are Nicaraguan, that's why they are all navy blue.

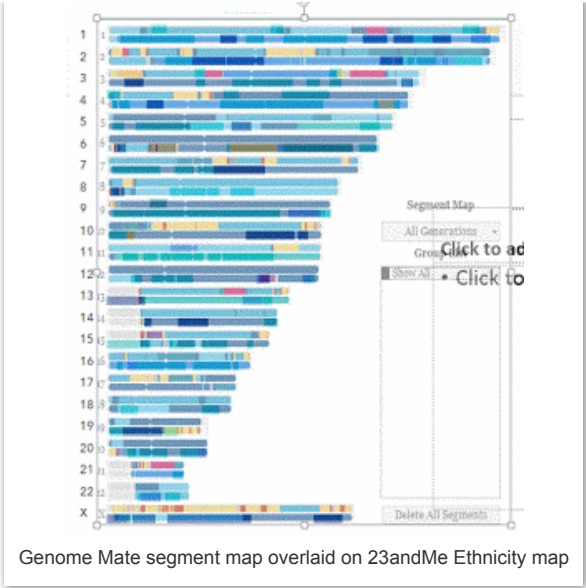


The light blue and dark blue should fit together like puzzle pieces, or be separated by gaps due to the fact not all my distant cousins have tested. They shouldn't overlap. This is generally the case. However, I have found a problem on one chromosome where my maternal grandfather and grandmother's segments overlap by about 10cM's. It could be the segment lengths are actually different than those provided as different companies segment lengths vary, or they may be within a false positive area. Genome Mate Pro will tell you if have a segment is in a false positive area. It will give you the exact location of this area if you move your mouse point over the ?, P, or M.

In the chart below we see the dark blues segments of my Nicaraguan grandmother's matches, and the other colors associated with my maternal grandfather, which are generally, separate as they should be. You can also see I've started marking out my father's match, which are on the top row of every chromosome. It's interesting to see where each of my grandparents' segments are. I'm guessing chromosome 17 is probably all from my grandmother, because out of hundreds of matches no one is showing up on this chromosome on the maternal side, and not as many Nicaraguans have tested. Chromosome 9 appears to be all from my maternal grandfather. So if I have a match on Chromosome 9 I can assume it's from my maternal grandfather.



I've overlaid Genome Mate's chromosome chart with 23andMe's ethnicity chromosome chart. The ethnicity chromosome chart shows segments color coded by ethnicity. When I overlaid both charts the ethnicities associated with Nicaragua, i.e. Southern European, Native American, and African do line up with my grandmother's navy blue segments. This suggests that the ethnicity results were accurate for her and I. You can see the X is mostly Native American aligning with my grandmother's ancestry, and our Nicaraguan matches on the X. Native American is the yellowish color.



After marking all of my maternal grandparents matches I went through them chromosome by chromosome. I looked for overlapping segments. I then attempted to figure out which grandparent each match was associated with. I found some Anglo surnames segments overlapping with Nicaraguan matches. I then checked FTDNA and 23andMe for places of origin. I found one of these matches did have Nicaragua has a place of origin. I was able to place another Anglo surname match on my grandmother's Nicaraguan side based on the ethnicity results provided for this 23andMe match.

M	4	72.1	81.1	7.8	1,800	
M	4	72.1	82.2	9.2	2,000	
M	4	72.1	82.2	9.2	2,000	
M	4	72.1	84.8	12.8	2,557	
M	4	72.1	85.2	13.1	2,657	

Going through matches chromosome by chromosome allowed me to identify more matches with common ancestors on my grandfather's side. This has been a very rewarding exercise as far as sorting matches by grandparent, and seeing exactly where on each chromosome each grandparent passed down segments to me. If you have ancestors from very different ethnic backgrounds an exercise like this can be very helpful. Even if your ancestors are all from the same ethnic background uploading to Genome Mate Pro and looking for shared and overlapping segments can help to identify how matches are related to you.

Posted by Annette at 3:44 PM 1 comment:

Friday, January 6, 2017

# Nicasio Del Castillo In Nicaraguan Government Records



Nicasio del Castillo was an attorney in Nicaragua (along with many of his descendants). His education and residence in Granada, which was a governmental center before Managua, allowed him to run for governmental office for the department of Granada, and work in various capacities for the government. [The Enrique Bolanos Library](#) has books, magazines, and government documents viewable online. Some of the magazines and books contain genealogical information. Searching by name brings up many hits for the name del Castillo. This information is going to keep me busy for a long time.

Acuerdo de 12 de agosto de 1851 admitiendo la renuncia que de Ministro de guerra hizo el Sr. don Nicacio del Castillo. El Gobierno Supremo – Estimándose legales las excusas puestas por don Nicacio del Castillo para no admitir la cartera de la guerra: en uso de sus facultades ha tenido a bien acordar y ACUERDA: 1°. Admítase la renuncia que del Ministerio de la guerra hace el Sr. don Nicacio del Castillo. 2°. Nombrase interinamente para Secretario de guerra al Lic. don Buenaventura Selva. 3°. Comuníquese á quienes corresponda. – Granada, agosto 12 de 1851 – Montenegro.

ACUERDO n. 154 admitiendo la renuncia de Magistrado de la Corte de Oriente al Sr. D. Nicacio del Castillo. El Gobierno: Estimando por justas las causas alegadas por el Sr. D. Nicacio del Castillo para no servir como Magistrado de la Sprna. Corte de Oriente; y considerando al mismo tiempo la necesidad que hay de nombrar quien le remplace en este destino, Acuerda: 1. Admítase la renuncia que hace de la Magistratura de. Oriente al Sr. D. Nicacio del Castillo.. 2.° Nómbrase en su lugar al Br D. Manuel Urbina. 3.° Comuníquese á quienes corresponde. Managua, octubre 30 de 1847 Juarez., —Cortéz

Acuerdo de 21 de octubre, nombrando Ministro de Hacienda interino al Sr. don Nicacio del Castillo. El Gobierno: Siendo conveniente nombrar un Ministro de Hacienda que durante la ausencia del Sr. don J. Miguel Cárdenas, desempeñe los graves asuntos de la Cartera, y pareciendo muy apropiado el Sr. don Nicacio del Castillo ; en uso de sus facultades. Acuerda: 1° Nómbrase Ministro de Hacienda interino al Sr. don Nicacio del Castillo, para mientras esté ausente el Sr. don Miguel Cárdenas. 2° Interin toma posesion el Sr. Castillo, el Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores asumirá la Cartera de Hacienda en atencion á los crecidos asuntos del Ministerio de lo Interior, á quien por disposicion gral. debiera anexarse dicha Cartera. Comuníquese —Managua, octubre 21 de 1862—Martinez.

Durante la ausencia del Gobierno, el Sr. Ministro de Hacienda don Nicacio del Castillo permanecerá en esta Capital despachando los asuntos de su Ministerio. 2° En casos de urgencia b de gravedad queda facultado para obrar conforme á los instrucciones que llevó en su comision á Granada. Comuníquese: — Managua, nvbre. 22 de 1862.—Martinez.

ACUERDO n: 156 nombrando Juez de 1ª. instancia del distrito de Granada a D. Nicacio del Castillo. El Gobierno. Estando vacante el empleo de Juez de 1ª. instancia del distrito de Granada, y debiendo nombrar un sugeto que reúna las cualidades necesarias para este destino: Acuerda 1. Nómbrase Juez de 1ª instancia del distrito de Granada al: Br. D. Nicacio del Castillo. 2.° Comuníquese á quienes corresponde; Managua, octubre 30 de 1857. Juarez - -Cortéz.

ACUERDO n: 156 nombrando Juez de 1ª. instancia del distrito de Granada a D. Nicacio del Castillo. El Gobierno. Estando vacante el empleo de Juez de 1ª. instancia del distrito de Granada, y debiendo nombrar un sugeto que reúna las cualidades necesarias para este destino: Acuerda 1. Nómbrase Juez de 1ª instancia del distrito de Granada al: Br. D. Nicacio del Castillo. 2.° Comuníquese á quienes corresponde; Managua, octubre 30 de 1857. Juarez - -Cortéz.

Acuerdo de 19 de febrero, concediendo el pase al título de Cura i Vicario de Granada extendido á favor del señor Presbítero Br. don José Antonio Castillo. El Gobierno: En uso de sus facultades, Acuerda: Único- Concédese el pase constitucional á los títulos de Cura

interino de la parroquia de Granada i Vicario foráneo del departamento, librados por el Ilmo. señor Obispo de esta Diócesis, á favor del señor Presbítero Br. don José Antonio Castillo. Comuníquese - Managua, 19 de febrero de 1873 - Quadra.

Decreto de 31 de enero de 1863, dispensando cuatro meses de estudio en las aulas d los jóvenes don Salvador Castillo y don Salvador Castrillo para obtener el grado de Bachiller. El Presidente de la República á sus habitantes, Sabed : Que el Congreso ha ordenado lo siguiente. El Senado y Cámara de Diputados de la República de Nicaragua. Resuelven : Art. único. --- En atencion á las aptitudes que han acreditado los jóvenes don Salvador Castillo y don Salvador Castrillo, se les dispensan cuatro meses de estudio en las aulas, para que puedan obtener el grado de Bachiller en derecho civil. Dado en el Salon de Sesiones de la Cámara de Diputados ,---- Managua, 30 de enero de 1863 — Pedro Zeledon, D. P. — Eduardo Castillo, D. S. — J. D. Flores, D. S. — Al Poder Ejecutivo. Sala de la Cámara del Senado. — Managua, enero 30 de 1863 — Fernando Guzman, S. P.— Nicacio del Castillo, S. S. — Basilio Salinas, S. S. — Por tanto : Ejecútese — Palacio Nacional — Managua, enero 31 de 1863. — Tomas Martínez.— El Ministro de Instruccion pública. — Antonio Silva.

Acuerdo de 11 de agosto de 1851 admitiendo la renuncia que del Ministerio de la guerra hizo el Sr. don José Leon Sandóval El Gobierno Supremo – Estimando legales las causas puestas por don José Leon Sandoval para no admitir la cartera de la guerra: en uso de sus facultades, ha tenido a bien acordar y ACUERDA: 1°. Admítase la renuncia que del Ministerio de la guerra hace el Sr. don José Leon Sandoval. 2°. Nombrase interinamente para Secretario de guerra al Sr. don Nicacio del Castillo. 3°. Comuníquese a quienes corresponda – Granada, agosto 11 de 1851 – Montenegro.

Nómbrense vocales de la Academia Científica de Granada á los señores Dr. don Agustin Pasos, Licenciados don Santiago Morales, don Miguel Vijil, don Salvador Castillo i Br. don Francisco del Castillo. Comuníquese - Managua, agosto 5 de 1 1873 del actual Telegrafista de Granada. don Ambrosio Cas tillo: en uso de sus facultades.— Acuerdo; Nómbrese Telegrafista. de la oficina de Granada señor don Alejo O. Barberena. con el sueldo de ley rindiéndosele las gracias al señor Castillo por sus servicios . Comuníquese Managua, Abril 5 de 1877

Acuerdo por el que se nombra Telegrafista para la oficina de Diriamba. El Gobierno- Estando para establecerse la oficina telegráfica de Diriamba- Acuerdo: Nombrar Telegrafista para la oficina de dicho pueblo, al señor don Telémaco Castillo, con la dotación de veinte pesos mensuales. Comuníquese- Granada, 2 de setiembre de 1881. Zavala- Al señor Ministro de la Gobernación- Navas.

Decreto de 27 de enero de 1863 , declarando popular y constitucionalmente electo Presidente de la República al Sr. Gral. don Tomas Martinez. El Presidente de la República á sus habitantes, Sabed : Que el Congreso ha ordenado lo siguiente. El Congreso de la República de Nicaragua, Declara : Art. único. El Sr. General don Tomas Martinez está popular y constitucionalmente electo Presidente de la República para servir el próximo período que comienza el primero de marzo del corriente aso, y termina el primero de marzo de 1867. Comuníquese al Poder Ejecutivo, para que lo mande publicar y circular. Dado en el Salon de Sesiones. — Managua, enero 27 de 1863. — Nicacio del Castillo, S. P. — Eduardo Castillo, D. S. — Basilio Salinas, S. S. — Por tanto : Ejecútese — Managua, enero 27 de 1863. — Tomas Martínez — El Ministro de Gobernacion. — Antonio Silva.

Decreto de 31 de enero de 1863, dispensandole un año de estudio en las aulas al joven don Tiburcio Bonilla. El Presidente de la República á sus habitantes. Sabed : Que el Congreso ha ordenado lo siguiente. El Senado y Cámara de Diputados de la República de Nicaragua. Resuelven : Art. único.— En atencion á las aptitudes que ha acreditado el joven don Tiburcio Bonilla, se le dispensa un ano de estudio en las aulas , para obtener el grado de Bachiller en Cánones y Leyes. Dado en el Salon de Sesiones de la Cámara de Diputados—Managua,

enero 30 de 1863— Pedro Zeledon, D. P. — Eduardo Castillo, D. S. — J. D. Flores, D. S. — Al Poder Ejecutivo. Sala de la Cámara del Senado. Managua, enero 30 de 1863 — Fernando Guzman, S. P. — Nicacio del Castillo, S. S. — Basilio Salinas, S. S. — Por tanto: Ejecútese — Palacio Nacional —Managua, enero 31 de 1863— Tomas Martinez. — El Ministro de Instruccion pública.— Antonio Silva.

Decreto de 11 de febrero de 1863, concediendo cédula de montepio á Isabel hija del difunto Joaquin Rosales. El Presidente de la República á sus habitantes, Sabed : Que el Congreso ha ordenado lo siguiente. El Senado y Cámara de Diputados de la República de Nicaragua. Acuerdan : Art. único. — Se concede á la menor Isabel Rosales. hija del Teniente don Joaquin Rosales, muerto en la accion de guerra del 11 de abril de 1856, en la ciudad de Rivas é incorporado en el ejército de Costa-Rica, la gracia de gozar del montepio de ley, desde la fecha de esta disposicion. Dado en el Salon de Sesiones de la Cámara de Diputados. — Managua, febrero 4 de 1863. -- Pedro Zeledoni, D. P. — Eduardo Castillo, D. S. — J. D. Flores, D. S. — Al Poder Ejecutivo. Sala de la Cámara del Senado. Managua, febrero 10 de 1863. — Fernando Guzman, S. P. — Macario Alvarez, S. S. — Por tanto : Ejecútese — Palacio Nacional. Managua, febrero 11 de 1863 — Nicacio del Castillo. — El Ministro de la Guerra. — Antonio Silva.

Decreto de 11 de febrero de 1863 , dispensando un año de estudio en las aulas al jóven don Perfecto Tijerino. El Senador Presidente de la República á sus habitantes, Sabed : Que el Congreso ha ordenado lo siguiente. El Senado y Cámara de Diputados de la República de Nicaragua. Acuerdan : Art. único. — En atencion á las aptitudes que ha acreditado el jóven don Perfecto Tijerino, se le dispensa un año de estudio en las aulas, para obtener el grado de Bachiller en ambos derechos. Dado en el Salon de Sesiones de la Cámara de Diputados. Managua, 10 de febrero de 1863 — Pedro Zeledon, D. P. — Eduardo Castillo, D. S. — C. Moncada, D. S.— Al Poder Ejecutivo. — Sala de la Cámara del Senado. Managua; 11 de febrero de 1863— Fernando Guzman, S. P.— Macario Alvarez, S. S. — Basilio Salinas, S. S. — Por tanto : Ejecútese.— Palacio Nacional. Managua, febrero 11 de 1863. Nicacio del Castillo. -- El Ministro de Instruccion pública, Antonio Silva

Decreto de 12 de febrero, mandando publicar y circular la ley de 19 de Marzo de 1853. El Senador Presidente de la República á sus habitantes Sabed : Que el Congreso ha ordenado lo siguiente : El Senado y Cámara de Diputados de la República de Nicaragua. Decretan : Art. único. — Considerando vigente la ley de 1° de Marzo de 1853 que señaló la autoridad ante quien el electo para servir el Poder Ejecutivo debia prestar el juramento de ley , el Gobierno la mandará publicar y circular para los casos ocurrentes. Dado en el salon de sesiones de la Cámara de Diputados. Managua, 11 de febrero de 1863. — Pedro Zeledon, d. P. — Eduardo Castillo, D. S. — José Nuñez, D. S. — Al Poder Ejecutivo. Sala de la Cámara del Senado. — Managua, 12 de febrero de 1863.— Fernando Guzman, S. P. — Macario Alvarez, S. S. — Basilio Salinas, S. S. — Por tanto : Ejecútese. Palacio Nacional. Managua, febrero 12 de 1863. Nicacio del Castillo. — El Ministro de Gobernacion. — Antonio Silv

Decreto de 14 de febrero, concediendo por cinco años mas al Coronel J. H. Harper la gracia de ocho pesos mensuales. El Senador Presidente de la República, á sus habitantes, Sabed : Que el Congreso ha ordenado lo siguiente : El Senado y Cámara de Diputados de la República de Nicaragua. Decretan : Art. único. — En consideracion á los servicios que prestó á Nicaragua, el Coronel don J. H. Harper, en la guerra contra los filibusteros, y á que ha quedado impedido de una mano á consecuencia de un balazo que recibió en la misma guerra, se le concede por cinco años mas, siempre que permanezca en Nicaragua, la pension de ocho pesos mensuales. Dado en la sala de sesiones de la Cámara del Senado. Managua, 13 de febrero de 1863. — Fernando Guzman, S. P. — Macario Alvarez, S. S. — Basilio Salinas, S. S. — Al Poder Ejecutivo. — Salon de sesiones de la Cámara de Diputados. Managua, febrero 13 de 1863. — Pedro Zeledon D. P. — Eduardo Castillo, D. S. — José Nuñez, D. S. — Por tanto : Ejecútese — Palacio Nacional. Managua, febrero 14 de 1863. — Nicacio del Castillo. — El Ministro de la Guerra.—Antonio Silva.

Decreto de 17 de febrero de 1863 , nombrando Magistrado Suplente de la Seccion Spma. Judicial de Occidente y Setentrion al Sr. Br. don José Herdocia en reposicion del Sr. Lcdo. Paniagua. El Senador Presidente de la República á sus habitantes. Sabed : Que el Congreso ha ordenado lo siguiente. El Congreso de la República de Nicaragua. Declara : Art. único. — Hace por Magistrado Suplente á la Seccion Spma. Judicial de los Departamentos de Occidente y Setentrion para el periodo próximo, al Sr. Br. don José Herdocia, en reposicion del Sr. Lcdo. don José M. Paniagua. Comuníquese al Poder Ejecutivo para que la mande publicar y circular. Dada en Managua, h 11 de febrero de 1863. — Pedro Zeledon, D. P. — Eduardo Castillo, D. S. — Basilio Salinas, S. S. — Por tanto : Ejecútese. — Managua, febrero 17 de 1863. — Nicacio del Castillo. — El Ministro de Justicia. — Juan J. Lescano.

Decreto de 19 de febrero de 1863, mandando liquidar y pagar en dinero á la Municipalidad de Granada. El Senador Presidente de la República á sus habitantes, Sabed : Que el Congreso ha ordenado lo siguiente. El Senado y Cámara. de Diputados de la República de Nicaragua. Decretan : Art. 1º El Gobierno liquidará y pagará en dinero á la Municipalidad de Granada cuando mejore la situacion de la Hacienda pública, las cantidades que justifique haber prestado al erario en los años de 1851 – 1854 y 1855. Art. 2º Tambien liquidará y pagará conforme á la ley de 4 de Setiembre de 1858, el valor de perjuicios que justifique haber recibido en el incendio de Granada Dado en el salon de Sesiones de la Cámara de Diputados. Managua, febrero 14 de 1863. — Pedro Zeledon, D. P. — Eduardo Castillo, D. S. — José Nuñez, D. S. — Al Poder Ejecutivo. Sala de la Cámara del Senado. Managua, febrero 16 de 1863. — Fernando Guzman, S. P. — Macado Alvarez, S. S.— Basilio Salinas, S. S. — Por tanto Ejecútese— Palacio Nacional. Managua, febrero 19 de 1863. — Nicacio del Castillo. — El Ministro de Crédito público. — Juan J. Lescano.

Decreto de 20 de febrero de 1863, que manda cubrir con el fondo de caminos los compromisos con la Compañía de diligencias. El Senador Presidente de la República á sus habitantes, Sabed : Que el Congreso ha ordenado lo siguiente. El Senado y Cámara de Diputados de la República de Nicaragua. Decretan : Art. (único. — Los compromisos que tiene contraidos el Gobierno con la Compañía de diligencias, los cumplirá de preferencia del fondo de caminos creado para la composicion de las rutas principales de la República. Dado en el salon de Sesiones de la Cámara de Diputados. Managua, febrero 19 de 1863. — Pedro Zeledon, D. P. — Eduardo Castillo, D. S. — Jerónimo Pérez, D. S. — Al Poder Ejecutivo. Sala de la Cámara del Senado. Managua 20 de febrero de 1863. --- Fernando Guzman, S. P.— ' Macario Alvarez, S. S. — Basilio Salinas, S. S. — Por tanto : Ejecútese. Managua, febrero 20 de 1863. — Nicacio del Castillo. — El Ministro de Fomento. — Juan J. Lescano,

Decreto de 20 de febrero de 1863, indultando á don Carlos Aragon. El Senador Presidente (le la República á sus habitantes, Sabed : Que el Congreso ha ordenado lo siguiente : El Senado y Cámara de Diputados de la República de Nicaragua,. Decretan : Art. único. — Se indulta al Sr. don Carlos Aragon de la pena de suspension del derecho de procurar por á, 6 por otra persona á que fue condenado por el ex-Alcalde 1º de la ciudad de Rivas, por sentencia de 28 de marzo del año ppdo. conforme al art. 203 del Código penal. Dado en el salon. de Sesiones de la Cámara del Senado Managua, febrero 17 de 1863. — Fernando Guzman, S. P. — Macario Alvarez, S. S. Basilio Salinas, S. S. — Al Poder Ejecutivo. Sala de la Cámara de Diputados. Managua, 20 de febrero de 1863. — Pedro Zeledon, D. P. — Eduardo Castillo, D. S. — Jerónimo Perez, D. S. — Por tanto : Ejecútese. — Palacio Nacional. Managua, febrero 20 de 1863.— Nicacio del Castillo. — El Ministro de Justicia. — Juan J. Lescano.

Acuerdo concediendo un grado militar. EL GOBIERNO: En uso de sus facultades, ACUERDA : Unico —Se concede el grado do Capitan de las milicias de la República, al señor Teniente don Roumualdo Cisneros de Leon: ascenso de Teniente efectivo, al

Subteniente don Miguel Pineda, vecino de Masaya; i de Subteniente, al Sarjento Jorge Almaza de Tipitapa, i á don Fernando Castillo de Granada. Estiéndanse los despachos de lei; i comuníquese— Managua, marzo 15 de 1869—Guzman.

Acuerdo por el que se nombra individuos de la Junta de reedificación de templos de Granada. El Gobierno- En uso de sus facultades- Acuerda: Único- Nómbrase individuos de la Junta de reedificación de templos de la ciudad de Granada, á los señores: Cura y Vicario Presbítero don José Antonio Castillo, don Manuel Urbina, son Fernando Lacayo, don Eduardo Montiel y don Casimiro Arosteguí. Comuníquese- Managua, 21 de Abril de 1881- Zavala- El Sub-Secretario encargado del Ministerio de Negocios Eclesiásticos- García.

a, haciendo uso de los mismos medios. Dado en el Salon de Sesiones de la Cámara de Diputados — Managua, enero 31 de 1863. — Pedro Zeledon, D. P. — Eduardo Castillo, D. S. — J. D. Flores, D. S. — Al Poder Ejecutivo. Sala de la Cámara del Senado. Managua, febrero, 4 de 1863. — Fernando Guzman S. P. — Nicacio del Castillo, S. S. — Basilio Salinas, S. S. — Por tanto : Ejecútese. Palacio Nacional. Managua, febrero 6 de 1863.— Nicacio del Castillo. — Al Sr. Lcdo. don Juan J. Lescano, Srio. de Fomento. — Juan J. Lescano.

Acuerdo de 12 de agosto, declarando sin lugar un reclamo contra la Hacienda pública. EL GOBIERNO: Con presencia del espediente en que el señor don Nicacio del Castillo reclama la cantidad de dos mil pesos ( \$ 2,000 ), como perjuicios causados á él en la guerra civil i nacional; i de la resolucion dictada por el juez comisionado en 21 de julio próximo pasado, fundándose en la prueba suficiente i varios defectos de nulidad de que adolece. ACUERDA: 1.º Declárase sin lugar la espresada solicitud, archivándose en consecuencia las diligencias. 2.º Comuníquese—Managua, agosto 12 de 1868— Guzman.

Decreto de 4 de marzo, faculta Ido al Gobierno para hacer educar en el Liceo de San Agustín un niño pobre de cada departamento. El Presidente de la República. a sus habitantes. Sabe: Que el Congreso ha ordenado lo siguiente: "El Senado y Cámara de Diputados de la República de Nicaragua, Decretan: Art. 1. 0Se faculta al Gobierno para que en cuanto lo permitan las c;rcunstancias del Tesoro público, haga educar en el Colegio de San Agustín, establecido en Granada, un niño po. bre de cada departamento de la República. Art. 2. ° Los que así fueren agraciados, estarán obligados a servir escuelas en su respectivo departamento por igual tiempo al que permanecieron en el Colegio, y por la dotacion que tenga señalada la Junta de,instruccion respectiva, luego que concluida su educacion, regresen a ellos. Dado en el salon de sesiones de la Cámara del Senado — Managua, febrero 28 de 1861.—Hermenegildo Zepeda, P. — Manuel Revelo, S.—Nicacio del Castillo, S. -Al Poder Ejecutivo.—Salon de sesiones de la Cámara de Diputados. — Managua, marzo 1 0de 1861.—Pedro Zeledon, D. P.—Eduardo Castillo, D. S —Joaquin Elizondo, D. S".—Palacio Nacional. Managua, marzo 4 de-1861.—Por tanto: Ejecútese.— Tomas Martinez. —Al Señor Ministro general.—J. Miguel Cardenas.

Decreto de 19 de febrero de 1863, suprimiendo y haciendo la distribucion de la cantidad con reemplazado. El Senador Presidente de la República, á sus Sabe: Q tic el Congreso ha ordenado lo siguiente El Sellado y Cámara de Diputados de la de Nicaragua. Decretan : Art. 1? — Desde el 1? de enero del corriente está suprimida la contribucion del diezmo ; pero tincion no priva á los arrendatarios ni á la Iglesia percepcion de frutos ó especies nacidas en el año cuya recaudacion y entrega debe hacerse en el Art. 29 — Para la satisfaccion de las rentas ticas, y las demas deudas á que estaba afecta decimal, se señala la cantidad de diez y siete del impuesto sobre el ganado de matar, que se en la forma siguiente : Para satisfacer las rentas eclesiásticas desiol e, das por el Concordato Para confesores é iglesias pobres Para el hospital de Granada Para el de Leon Para la Junta de Instruccion del mismo Para la de Granada Para la de Rivas Para la de Chinandega Para la de Matagalpa Para la de Nueva - Segovia Para la de Chontales el diezmo que fué habitantes, : República año esta exde la. de 1862, año actual. eclesiásla masa mil pesos distribuirá a- 12,152 1000 1000 1000 375



375 250 248 200 200 200 Total \$ 17,000 Art. 39 — Para la reparacion de Catedral, tambien podrá el Gobierno destinar, del mismo fondo ó de cualquiera otro la cantidad que le fuese posible conforme lo permitan las urgencias del Erario. Dado en la sala de sesiones de la Camama del Senado. Managua, 10 de febrero de 1863. — Fernando Guzman, S. P. — Macario Alvarez, S. S. — Basilio Salinas, S. S. — Al Poder Ejecutivo. — Salon de sesiones de la Cámara de Diputados. Managua, febrero 14 de 1863. — Pedro Zeledon D. P. — Eduardo Castillo, D. S. — José Nuñez, D. S. — Por tanto : Ejecútese — Palacio Nacional. Managua, febrero 19 de 1863. — Nicacio del Castillo. — El Ministro de Negocios Eclesiásticos. — Juan J. Lescano.

Decreto de 2 de marzo, señalando 80 pesos de sueldo á los Ministros de la aduana de San Carlos. El Gobierno: Con vista de la designacion que el presupuesto Legislativo de 20 de marzo último hace á los Mtros. de la Aduana de San Carlos en la partida 6a y deseando allanar las dificultades que presenta la diferencia establecida en sus dotaciones, no obstante quedar ambos sujetos á la misma responsabilidad como claveros; atendiendo á que sin alterar la cantidad total presupuestada, puede ocurrirse á este inconveniente aplicándola por mitad á uno y otro Mtro. y dejando al que hace de Contador vista la obligacion de proveer de escribiente para la oficina. que es lo que ha querido el Soberano Congreso al suprimir esta plaza: en uso de sus Facultades constitucionalmente delegadas en el ramo de Hacienda. Decreta: Art. 1° La dotacion de los Ministros de la Aduana de San Carlos será. la de 80 pesos cada uno, siendo de da del Contador el proveer de escribiente á la oficina. Art. 2° El nombramiento de Contador hecho en 9 de febrero último, quedará sujeto á l() establecido en el presente decreto. Comuníquese á quienes corresponde. —Dado en Granada, á 2 de marzo de 1863. —Nicacio del Castillo.

Decreto de 15 de mayo, reglamentando la venta de licores fuertes extranjeros. El Senador Presidente de la República á sus habitantes: Considerando que la introduccion de licores fuertes extranjeros está gravada con cuarenta centavos por botella, que se pagan precisamente en dinero en las Aduanas de la República, en cuyo concepto es de necesidad eximir á las ventas por menor del impuesto de ocho pesos mensuales que se cobra á virtud del derecho de 31 de octubre de 1860; en uso de sus facultades, Decreta: Art. 1° Del 1° de junio en adelante no se cobrarán á las ventas por menor de licores fuertes extranjeros los ocho pesos mensuales que estableció el decreto de 31 de octubre de 1860 h beneficio de la Hacienda pública. Art 2° Para continuar 6 establecer nueras ventas, los interesados sacarán licencia del Subdelegado ó Subprefecto respectivo, quien para otorgarla debe exigir fianza á su satisfaccion da que no se adulterarán los licores que se venderán junto á los puestos donde se realiza el aguardiente de la Nacion; y que en caso de falta pagarán de diez á veinticinco pesos de multa que gubernativamente se les hará exhibir. Dado en Granada, á 15 de mayo de 1863—N. Castillo.

Decreto de 16 de mayo, que da ó las onzas Hispano–americanas el valor de 16 pesos. El Senador Presidente de la República á sus habitantes: Teniendo en consideracion que fas onzas de oro de las Repúblicas Hispano–americanas circulan en el comercio de los otros Estados de la América–Central por el valor de 16 pesos fuertes, lo mismo que en el de las demos Naciones de su origen: y siendo una traba para las transacciones mercantiles la diversa estimacion que se da en el pais á dicha moneda; en uso de sus atribuciones ha venido en decretar y Decreta; Art. 1° Las onzas de oro de las Repúblicas Hispanoamericanas se recibirán en las oficinas de Hacienda de la Nacion por el valor de diez y seis pesos fuertes. Art. 2° Las propias oficinas tan luego que reciban el presente decreto practicarán el corte de que habla el art. 140 del Reglamento de contabilidad de 22 de agosto de 1861. Art. 3° Queda abrogado el art. 2 ° del decreto de 1 ° de julio de 1861, que mandó que dichas onzas se reciban por quince pesos sesenta fuertes. Dado en Granada á 16 de mayo de 1863—N. Castilla.

Acuerdo de 27 de mayo, facultando á los Srs. Prefecto del Departamento y Subprefecto de Managua, para que convoquen a elecciones municipales de esba ciudad y la de Managua.

El Gobierno : Considerando que las Municipalidades de esta ciudad y la de Managua se hallan desorganizadas á causa de que algunos de sus individuos se han ausentado voluntariamente de sus destinos, y otros están prestando sus servicios en el Ejército : siendo conveniente al buen Gobierno de las enunciadas ciudades, el reaparecimiento del cuerpo Municipal respectivo para la promocion de los negocios públicos encomendados á su cuidado; en uso de sus facultades de que se haya investido, ha tenido á bien acordar y Acuerda : 1° Se faculta á los Srs. Prefecto de este Departamento y Subprefecto de Managua, para que convoquen á. elecciones municipales en esta ciudad y la de Managua, con objeto de que se repongan los Municipales en esta ciudad y que se hayan ausentado voluntariamente de sus destinos, y á los que estén sirviendo en vl. Ejército. 2° La autoridad política de este Departamento y la del distrito de Managua bajo su mas estrecha responsabilidad y con la brevedad posible, son encargados de la ejecucion del presente acuerdo. Comuníquese.—Granada, mayo 27 de 1863.—Castillo.

Decreto de 15 de .Febrero, indultando á unos reos El Presidente de la República sus habitantes., •Sabed: Que el Congreso ha ordenado lo siguiente. El Senado v Cámara de Diputados de la Repúblí ca, de Nicaragua. Decreta : Unico--indúltase á los reos Jos é, María, Desiderio, Venancio, Toríbio -y Agapito Diaz, Ednvi< Rodriguez, Valentin y Tranquilino Perez y Juana García, de las penas á que fueron condenados por sentencia ejecutoriada de 13 de Mayo de 1872, Sala de sesiones de la Cámara de Diputado.,— Ma.nagua. Enero 18 de 1876—S. A Morales, D. P.-- Francisco- del Castillo, D. S.—Tooribio Tijerino, 1). S.—Al Poder Ejecutivo—Sala de sesiones del Senado----Managua, Febrero 14 de 1882--Benjamin Guerra, S. P.--José María Rojas, S. S.—Ramón Saenz: S. S.---Por tanto: Ejecútese—Managua, 15 de Febrero de 1882—Joaquín Zavala--E1 Ministro de justicia—Vicente Navas.

Decreto de 14 de marzo, aclarando el art. 2° del de 3 de febrero del mismo año por el que se nombraron dos Magistrados suplentes de la Seccion suprema de justicia de Oriente y Mediodia. El Presidente de la República, á sus habitantes. Sabed: Que el congreso ha ordenado lo siguiente: El Soberano Congreso de la República de Nicaragua, Decretan: Art. único. El art. 2° del decreto de 3 de febrero último, se leerá en estos términos: "Son Magistrados suplentes de la misma Seccion los Srs. Lcdo. don Juan J. Lezcano, en reposición del señor Br. don Florencio Fletes, y el señor Br. don Luis Mejía en reposición del mismo Mejía." Al Poder Ejecutivo – Salon de sesiones – Managua, marzo 13 de 1865. – Juan B. Sacasa, D. P. – Federico Solórzano, S. S. – Nicacio del Castillo, S. S. – Por tanto: Ejecútese – P. N. Managua, marzo 14 de 1865. – Tomas Martinez. – El Ministro de Justicia – Antonio Silva.

Decreto de 27 de febrero, renovándose los Senadores, que cumplieron su periodo y corresponden á los Departamentos de Leon y Rivas. El Presidente de la República, á sus habitantes, Sabed: Que la Cámara del Senado ha ordenado lo siguiente: La Cámara del Senado, Decreta: Art. único. Para la renovación de los Senadores que han cumplido su período constitucional, elegirán en la época que la ley señala las Juntas departamentales, para el período inmediato que comienza el 1° de enero de 67. El Departamento de Leon un Senador propietario y un suplente en lugar del propietario Lcdo. don Bacilio Salinas y suplente don Terencio Delgado. El Departamento de Granada, un propietario y un suplente en lugar del propietario don Vicente Cuadra y del suplente don Nicacio del Castillo. El de Rivas, un propietario y un suplente, en lugar del propietario don Sebastian Marengo y del suplente don Evaristo Carazo. Al Poder Ejecutivo – Dado en el salon de sesiones de la Cámara del Senado. – Managua, febrero 26 de 1866. – M. Montealegre, S. P. – Sebastian Marengo, S.S. – José Abarca, S. S. – Por tanto: Ejecútese – P. N. Managua, Febro. 27 de 1866. – Tomas Martinez. – El Ministro del Interior – Antonio Silva.

Decreto de 27 de febrero, renovándose los Senadores, que cumplieron su periodo y corresponden á los Departamentos de Leon y Rivas. El Presidente de la República, á sus habitantes, Sabed: Que la Cámara del Senado ha ordenado lo siguiente: La Cámara del Senado, Decreta: Art. único. Para la renovación de los Senadores que han cumplido su

período constitucional, elegirán en la época que la ley señala las Juntas departamentales, para el período inmediato que comienza el 1° de enero de 67. El Departamento de Leon un Senador propietario y un suplente en lugar del propietario Lcdo. don Bacilio Salinas y suplente don Terencio Delgado. El Departamento de Granada, un propietario y un suplente en lugar del propietario don Vicente Cuadra y del suplente don Nicacio del Castillo. El de Rivas, un propietario y un suplente, en lugar del propietario don Sebastian Marengo y del suplente don Evaristo Carazo. Al Poder Ejecutivo – Dado en el salon de sesiones de la Cámara del Senado. – Managua, febrero 26 de 1866. – M. Montealegre, S. P. – Sebastian Marengo, S.S. – José Abarca, S. S. – Por tanto: Ejecútese – P. N. Managua, Febro. 27 de 1866. – Tomas Martinez. – El Ministro del Interior – Antonio Silva.

Decreto de 14 de enero de 1876, que cede el edificio de San Francisco de Granada para el Colegio de varones fundado en aquella ciudad,

EL PRESIDENTE DE LA REPUBLICA,

a sus habitantes,

SABED:

que el Congreso ha ordenado lo siguiente:

El Senado y Cámara de Representantes de la República de Nicaragua,

DECRETAN:

Art. único—La Junta Directiva de Estudios de la ciudad de Granada, cederá gratuitamente para el uso del Colegio de Varones establecido en aquella ciudad el edificio de San Francisco destinado anteriormente para local de la enseñanza de niñas.

Dado en el Salón de Sesiones de la Cámara del Senado—Managua, enero 10 do 1876—José A. Arce, P.—Domingo Rivas, S.—Ramón Briones, S.

Al Poder Ejecutivo—Salón de Sesiones de la Cámara de Diputados —Managua, enero 11 de 1876— A. Cárdenas. P. --Francisco del Castillo, S —Toribio Tijerino, S.

Por tanto: Ejecutese—P.N Managua, enero 14 de 1876—Pedro Joaquín Chamorro—El Ministro, de Instrucción Publica— Tomas A vón.

Resolucion de 27 de Marzo de 1851 que señala al Sr. Pres bítero Don Vicente Rojas la mensualidad de veinte pesos de los fondos de instruccion publica en lugar de la de quince que disfrutaba. El Director del Estado de Nicaragua á sus habitantes— Por cuanto la Asamblea Legislativa resuelto lo s iguiente —El Senado y Cámara de Representantes del Estado de Nicaragua constituidos en Asamblea RESUELVEN Art. Único. La mensualidad de 15 pesos de que hasta ahora ha disfrutado el Sr. Presbítero Don Vicente Rojas, será en lo sucesivo de 20 pesos que se paga rán por mitad de los fondos de instruccion pública de los Departamentos de Oriente y Occidente; quedando en consecuencia reformada la resolucion que habia. se- ñalado la primera cuota. Dado en el Salon de sesiones de la Cámara de Representantes, en Santiago de Managua, á. 20 de Marzo de 1851--- J. Joaquin Cuadra R. S.. Francisco Barberena R. S.—Al Supremo Poder Ejecutivo.— Salon de la Cámará del Senado, Santiago de Managua, Marzo 26 de 1851.— Nicacio del Castillo S. S.—José de Jesus Robleto S. S.--Por tanto: ejecútese. Managua, Mzo. 27 de 1851.-- Norberto Ramírez.. A1 Sr. Licenciado Don Sebastian Salinas Secretario del despacho de rela-, ciones y gobernacion.

DECRETO n. 43 \_que nombraMagistrados- de la Supr a Corte de Justicia. El Suprerno Gobierno-de laRepública de Nicaragua á sus habitantes: Siendo conveniente nombrar Magistrados para la, Suprema Corte de Justicia de la República, Decreta, Art. 1 Se hán por

:Magistrados propietarios para la Sus prema Seccion de Justicia de Oriente y Mediedia los Sres. Lcdos. don Gregorio Bolaños, don Isidoro Lopez. don Santiago Morales y Br. don Nicasio del Castillo; y por suplentes los Sres Lcdos. don Fernando Sequeira, don Lino César, don Francisco Jimenez, y Escribano don José de Jesus Ansoategui. Art. 2. Se hán por Magistrados propietarios para la Supre. ma Seccion Occidente y Setentrion los Sres. Lcdos. :Hermenegildo Zepeda, don' Sebastian. Salinas, don Jesus Baca y Dr. don RemigioJerez; y por suplentes los Sres. Lcdos. don Buenaventura Selva, don Santiago Buitrago, don Francisco Aguilar y Br don José,Herdocia \_Art. 3. Los nombrados ejercerán sus destino 'para mientras la próxima Legislatura dispone lo conveniente. 4.rt. 4. © Comuníquese á quienes. corresponde.—Dado Managua, á 21 de julio de 1857.---Tomas Martinez Máximo Jerez.

Decreto de 25 de febrero derogando el Art. 3° de ley de 9 de marzo de 1863 que requiere la audiencia Fiscal en la glosa de las cuentas municipales. El Senador Presidente de la República. Considerando que la intervencion Fiscal que tienen los Administradores de rentas por el final del art. 3° del decreto Ejecutivo de 9 de marzo de 1853, para la glosa y fenecimiento de las cuentas de las Corporaciones Municipales y juntas itinerarias, lejos de producir el bien que se propuso el Gobierno, hacen sufrir retardo al fenecimiento de dichas cuentas y perjudican á los respectivos fondos y por el honorario que tienen que satisfacer al Fiscal, cuyo pedimento hasta hoy no se ha contraido á, otra cosa que á llenar la simple fbrmula. Teniendo presente las observaciones que á este respecto ha hecho el señor Prefecto de este Departamento en nota de la fecha; en uso de sus facultades, ha tenido á bien dictar el siguiente, Decreto: Art. 1° Para la glosa y fenecimiento de las cuentas de los fondos Municipales y Juntas itinerarias, no es necesario la audiencia Fiscal requerida por el Art. 3° del espresado decreto de 9 de marzo de 1853: Art. 2° En consecuencia queda derogado dicho artículo en la parte referida, y las demas disposiciones que se opongan al presente. Dado en Granada á 25 de febrero de 1863, Nicacio del Castillo.

Acuerdo de 7 de marzo, facultando al General en jefe para levantar fuerza. El Gobierno: Con presencia de los sucesos de guerra entre Guatemala y el Salvador: del tratado de alianza defensiva cangeado entre aquella República y la de Nicaragua: de la mediacion pacífica entre aquellas Repúblicas iniciada por el Gobierno de Costa—Rica: reconociendo como su primer deber el de mantener ilesa la soberanía é independencia de la República y la integridad de su territorio amenazada por la alianza ofensiva entre las Repúblicas del Salvador y Honduras, por la ocupacion militar que el Gobierno del Salvador ha dado constantemente al General Jerez y otros emigrados de Nicaragua, y exitacion de estos á otros descontentos del interior, manteniendo la expectativa de una agresion, y por la espresa amenaza oficial de bloqueo al puerto de Corinto hecha por el Gobierno del Salvador al de Nicaragua con pretextos espeviosos: reconociendo igualmente el deber de cumplir en sus casos los compromisos con. traídos por aquel tratado; y. con presencia finalmente del memorandum presentado por una comision del vecindario notable de Leon, manifestando sus votos y deseos respecto A la actual situacion, Acuerda: 1° El General en jefe del ejército de la República. levantará la fuerza necesaria para llenar aquellos objetos segun lo demande la situacion. 2° Desde luego se procederá á protocolizar todos los antecedentes de los hechos que amagan la seguridad de la República, y á instruir informaciones conexas de todo lo que tenga relacion con estos hechos. 39 El Ministro de Guerra cuidará de la publicacion y cumplimiento del presente acuerdo, y el de Relaciones Exteriores de comunicarlo á los Gobiernos de Centro América con quienes estamos en relaciones, y á los Estran- peros por medio de sus respectivos Ministros, ante quienes se protesta que Nicaragua, no teniendo otro interes que la paz y progreso á que esta llamada, es á su pesar obligada á esta aptitud por amagos y peligros independientes de su voluntad. Comuníquese. —Granada, marzo 7 de 1863.—Castillo.

Acuerdo de 21 de enero, en que senombran comisiones que presidan las elecciones del Canton de la Parroquia de Granada i Villa de Jinotepe, EL GOBIERNO: Debiendo practicarse de nuevo las elecciones primaria del Canton de la Parroquia de Granada i de los

dos de la Villa de Jinotepe, de conformidad con lo resuelto por la Cámara de DD : no habiendo Directorio que las presida porque el del bienio anterior, ya cumplió su periodo, i el que fué nombrado en octubre último está, comprendi da en la declaratoria de nulidad: siendo este caso semejante al de que habla el acuerdo gubernativo de 15 de octubre ppdo.; con mérito de los fundamentos que allí se espone, ACUERDA: Se comisiona á los Sres. don Francisco del Castillo, don Francisco Rocha i don Francisco Calonje, para que presidan la junta popular del Canton de la Parroquia de Granada, con el solo objeto de recibir la votador: para los individuos del Directorio respectivo, i dar posesion á los que resulten electos. 2? Igual comision se confiere á los señores don Da-- niel Villavicencio, don Fernando Quiroz don Manuel Matuz, para el Canton oriental; á los señores don Agutin san chez, don J. 'Miguel Rocha i Coronel don Saturnino Serrano, para el occidental, de la Villa de jinotepe. 3V El Prefecto del Departamento señalará el día en que deban verificarse las referidas elecciones.; dictando las medidas que esten en sus facultados para que dichos actos se practiquen con la libertad i el ,orden correspondiente— Comuniquese —Managua, 21 de enero de 1867-- Martinez.

Acuerdo legislativo de 27 de diciembre de 1837, premiando a varias personas que en tiempo del cólera asiático prestaron servicios a la humanidad doliente. Al dar cuenta el Vice-Jefe Supremo del uso que hizo de las facultades que le fueron concedidas para aliviar a la humanidad en tiempo de cólera, recomienda los importantes servicios de varios ciudadanos que se distinguieron en tan tremendas circunstancias, y aunque por delicadeza calla su nombre, informada la Legislatura de los relevantes servicios que como facultativo prestó a la humanidad, y uso de la atribución 16 del artículo 81, Acordó: 1º. Declarar Benemérito de la Patria al C. José Núñez, actual Vice-Jefe del Estado. 2º. Que el Gobierno interponga los respetos de la Asamblea con el Padre Vicario Capítular para que los Presbíteros ciudadanos Francisco Quijano, Germán Sequeira, Hilario Herdocia, Máximo Gallegos y los demás que sin ser curas ni tener dotación alguna por administrar, hayan desempeñado sus funciones eclesiásticas a satisfacción del Gobierno y del público en el cólera, sean colocados en los mejores destinos de su ministerio. 3º. Que los Curas y Coadjutores que asimismo hayan desempeñado a satisfacción del Gobierno y del público las funciones de su ministerio en sus respectivas parroquias, se les den las gracias a nombre de la Legislatura, publicando sus nombre por la prensa. 4º. Que los seculares que sin dotación alguna prestaron grandes servicios, si son militares, obtengan un grado más en su arma, y si son paisanos, sean exencionados por cinco años de toda carga concejil, a menos que voluntariamente quieran admitirla. 5º. Que los que llevaron dotación sean exencionados por tres años. 6º. Que en el Cabildo y Universidad de esta ciudad se ponga con letras de oro la siguiente inscripción: Los Licenciados en medicina Manuel del Sol y Miguel Guerrero, yacen por salvar a la humanidad: que igual inscripción se ponga en los mismos edificios de la ciudad de Granada en memoria del C. Licenciado Nicasio del Castillo. \_\_\_\_\_

Decreto de 21 de Marzo ratificando el tratado ajustado con la Reina de España. El Director del Estado de Nicaragua á sus habitantes.--- Por cuanto la A. L. ha decretado lo siguiente. El Senado y Cámara de Representantes del Estado de Nicaragua constituidos en Asamblea DECRETAN: Art. 1. ° Ratificase en todas sus partes el tratado celebrado en Madrid en 25 de julio del año pró- ximo pasado entre el Supremo Gobierno de este Estado y el de S. M. C. Doña Isabel II por medio de legítimos Representantes nombrados, al efecto, el cual se compone de diecisiete artículos, y su tenor es el siguiente. Su Magestad la Reina de Espada Doña Isabel II. por una parte, y la República de Nicaragua por otra, animados del mismo deseo de poner término á las desavenencias é incomunicacion que ha existido entre los dos Gobiernos y de afianzar con un acto público y solemne de reconciliacion y de paz las buenas relaciones que naturalmente existen yá entre los súbditos de uno y otro Estado como procedentes de una misma familia, han determinado celebrar con tan plausible objeto un tratado de paz y amistad fundados en principios de justicia y de recíproca conveniencia. Para este fin Su Majestad Católica se ha dignado nombrar por su Plenipotenciario á Don Pedro Jose Pidal Marquez de Pidal, Caballero Gran Cruz de la Real y distinguida orden española de Carlos tercero, de la de San Fernando y del mérito de las dos Sicilias, de la del



Leon Neerlandes, de la de Pio IX, de la de Leopólido de Bélgica, de la de Cristo de Portugal, de la de San Mauricio y San Lázaro de Cerdeña, Caballero de primera clase de la de Leopoldo de Austria, condecorado con el Nischani Jftifar de primera clase en brillantes de Turquía, individuo de número de la Academia española, de la de Historia y de la de San Fernando, y honorario de la de San Carlos de Valencia, Diputado á Córtes y su Ministro de Estado; y la República de Nicaragua á Don José de Marcoleta, Comendador de la Real orden de Francisco primero de Nápoles, y encargado de negocios de Nicaragua y Honduras cerca de las Córtes de Béljica Países Bajos, Gran Bretaña, Cerdeña, Santa. Sede y de la República Francesa; quienes despues de haber. se comunicado sus plenos Poderes, y de haberlos hallado en buena y debida forma, han convenido en los artículos siguientes.

ARTICULO PRIMERO. Su Majestad Católica, usando de la facultad que le compete por decreto de las Cortes generales del Reino de 4 de Diciembre de 1836, renuncia para siempre del modo mas formal y solemne por sí y sus su. cesores, la soberanía, derechos y acciones que la corresponden sobre el territorio americano, situado entre el mar atlántico y el pacífico con sus islas adyacentes, conocido antes bajo la denominacion provincia de Nicaragua, hoi República del mismo nombre y sobre los demas territorios que se hubiesen incorporado á dicha república,. ARTICULO SEGUNDO. En su consecuencia, su Magestad Católica reconoce como nacion libre, soberana é independiente á la República de Nicaragua, con todos los territorios que la pertenecen de mar á mar, é que en lo sucesivo la pertenecieren. ARTICULO TERCERO. Habrá total olvido de lo pasado y una amnistia general y completa para todos Los súbditos de S, NI, y ciudadanos de Nicaragua, sin excepcion alguna, cualquiera que haya sido el partido que hubiesen seguido durante las disenciones felizmente terminadas por el presente tratado. Y esta amnistia se estipula y ha de darse por la alta interposicion de su Magestad Catolica en prueba del deseo que la anima de que la es trecha amistad, paz y unión que desde ahora en adelante y para siempre han de conservarse entre sus subditos y los ciudadanos de Nicaragua, se funden en sentimientos de recíproca venevolencia. ARTICULO CUARTO. Su Majestad Católica y la República de Nicaragua convienen en que los súbditos y ciudadanos respectivos de ambas Naciones conserven espeditos y libres sus derechos para reclamar y obtener justicia y plena satisfaccion por las deudas bona fide contraidas entre si, como tambien en que no se les ponga por parte de la autoridad pública ningun obstácuio en los derechos que puedan alegar por razon de matrimonio, herencia por testamento ó abintestato, cualquiera otro de los títulos de adquisicion reconocidos por las leyes del país en que haya lugar á la reclamacion.

ARTICULO QUINTO. Deseosa la República de Nicaragua de dar á su Majestad Católica un testimonio de amistad, reconoce de la manera mas formal y solemne en virtud del presente tratado, como deuda consolidada de la República tan privilegiada como la que mas, todos los créditos, cualquiera que sea su clase por pensiones, sueldos, suministros, anticipos, fletes, empréstitos forzosos, depósitos, contratas y cualquiera otra deuda, ya de guerra, ya anterior á esta, que pesase sobre aquella antigua. Provincia de la España, siempre que proceda de órdenes directas del Gobierno español, de sus autoridades establecidas en aquellos territorios, hoi República de Nicaragua, hasta que se verificó la completa evacuacion del pais por las autoridades españolas Para este efecto serán considerados como comprobantes los asientos de los libros de cuenta y razon de las oficinas de la Capitanía general de Guatemala, ó de las especiales de la provincia de Nicaragua y sus territorios, así como los ajustes y certificaciones originales, ó copias legítimamente autorizadas, y cualquier otro documento que haga fé con arreglo á las leyes de la República. La certificacion de estos créditos no se terminará sin oir á las partes interesadas, v las cantidades que de es, ta liquidacion resulten admitidas y de legítimo pago devengarán el irteres legal correspondiente desde un año despues de canjeadas las ratificaciones del presente tratado, aunque la liquidacion se verifique con posterioridad. ARTICULO SESTO. Como garantía de la deuda procedente de la estipulacion contenida en el articulo anterior, el Gobierno de de la república procurará en cuanto lo permitan las circunstancias, establecer un fondo de amortizacion especial en favor de estos créditos. ARTICULO SETIMO Ygualmente declara la Republica de Nicaragua que aunque por punto jeneral en su territorio nohan tenido lugar secuestros ni confiscaciones de propiedades á subditos españoles, sin embargo, para todo evento se com. promete solemnemente del mismo modo que la hace Su

Majestad Católica, á que todos los bienes, muebles é inmuebles, alhajas, dinero, ú otros efectos de cualquiera especie, que hubiesen sido secuestrados ó confiscados á súbditos españoles, ó á ciudadanos de la República de Nicaragua durante la guerra sostenida en América ó despues de ella, y se hallaren todavia en poder del Gobierno en cuyo nombre se hizo el secuestro ó la confiscacion, serán inmediatamente restituidos á sus antiguos dueños ó á sus herederos ó legítimos representantes, sin que ninguno de ellos tenga accion pa ra reclamar cosa alguna por razon de los productos que dichos bienes hayan podido ó debido rendir durante el secuestro ó la confiscacion. Los desperfectos ó mejoras causadas en teles bienes por el tiempo por el acaso durante el secuestro ó la confiscacion, no se podrán reclamar ni por una ni por otra parte; pero los antiguos dueños ó sus representantes, deberán abonar al Gobierno respectivo todas aquellas mejoras hechas por obra humana en dichos bienes efectos despues del secuestro ó confiscacion; así como el espresado Gobierno deberá abonarles todos los desperfectos que provengan de tal obra en la mencionada época. Y estos abonos recíprocos se harán de buena fe y sin contienda judicial á juicio amigable de peritos ti de arbitadores nombrados por las partes y terceros que ellos elijan en caso de discordia. A los acreedores de que trata este artículo, cuyos bienes hayan sido vendidos ó enagenados de cualquier modo, se les dará la indemnizacion competente, en estos términos y á su eleccion, ó en papel de la deuda consolidada de la ciase de la mas privilegiada, cuyo interés empezará á correr al cumplirse el año de canjeadas las ratificaciones del presente tratado, ó en tierras del Estado: Si la indemnizaeion tuviese lugar en papel se dará al interesado por el Gobierno respectivo un documento de crédito contra el Estado, que devengará interes desde la época que se fija en el párrafo anterior, aunque el documento fuese espedido con posterioridad á, ella, y si se verificase en tierras públicas, despues del año siguiente al canje de las ratificacio- nes, se añadirá al valor de las tierras que se den en indemnizacion de los bienes perdidos la cantidad de tierras mas que se calcule equivalente al rédito de las primitivas, si se hubiesen estas entregado dentro del año siguiente al referido canje, en términos que la indemnizacion sea efectiva y completa cuando se realice. Para la indemnización, tanto en papel como en tierras del Estado, se atenderá al valor que tenian los bienes confiscados al tienpo del secuestro ó confisco, procediéndose en todo de buena fe y de un modo amigable y conciliador. ARTICULO OCTAVO Cualquiera que sea el punto donde se hallen establecidos los súbditos españoles ó los ciudadanos de Nicaragua, que en virtud de lo estipulado en los artí- culos 5° y 7° de este tratado, tengan que hacer alguna reclamacion, deberán presentarla precisamente dentro de cuatro años contados desde el dia en que se publique en la capital de Nicaragua la ratificacion del presente tratado, acompañando una relacion susinta de los hechos apoyada en documentos fehacientes que justifiquen la legitimidad de la demanda, y pasados dichos cuatro años no se admitirán nuevas reclamaciones de esta clase bajo pretesto alguno. ARTICULO NOVENO. Para borrar de una vez todo vestijio de division entre los súbditos de ambos paises, tan unidos por los vínculos de origen, religion, lengua, costumbres y afectos, convienen ambas partes contratantes en que aquellos españoles que por cualquier modo hayan residido en la República de Nicaragua y adopta,lo aquella na. cionalidad, podrán recobrar la suya primitiva, si así los conviniese, en cuyo caso, sus hijos mayores de edad tendrán el mismo derecho de opcion y los menores, mientras lo sean, seguirán la nacionalidad del padre, aunque unos y otros hayan nacido en el territorio de la República. El plazo para la opcion será el de un año para los que existan en el territorio de la República, y dos para los que se hallen ausentes. No haciéndose la opcion en este término, se entiende definitivamente adoptada la nacionalidad de la República. Convienen igualmente en que los actuales súbditos españoles nacidos en el territorio de Nicaragua podrán adquirir la. nacionalidad de la República, siempre que en los mismos términos establecidos en este artículo, opten por ella. En tales casos, sus hijos mayores de edad adquirirán tambien igual derecho de opcion, y los menores de edad, mientras lo sean, seguirán la nacionalidad del padre. Para adoptar la. nacionalidad será preciso que los interesados se bagan inscribir en la matrícula de nacionales que deberán establecer las legaciones y consulados de ambos Estados, y transcurrido el término que queda prefijado, solo se considerarán súbditos españoles y ciudadanos de Nicaragua los procedentes de España y de dicha República, que por su nacionalidad lleven pasaportes de sus respectivas autoridades y se hagan inscribir en

el registro ó matrícula de la legacion ó consulado de su nacion. ARTICULO DECIMO. Los súbditos de su Magestad Católica en Nicaragua, y los Ciudadanos de la República de Nicaragua en España podrán ejercer libremente sus oficios y profesiones, poseer, comprar y vender por mayor y menor toda especie de bienes y propiedades muebles, extraer del país sus valores íntegramente, disponer de ellos en vida ó por muerte y suceder en los mismos por testamento ó abintestato, todo con arreglo á las leyes del país y en los mismos términos y bajo de iguales condiciones y adeudos que usan ó usaren los de la nacion mas favorecida. ARTICULO UNDECIMO. Los súbditos españoles no estarán sujetos en Nicaragua, ni los ciudadanos de esta República en España al servicio del ejército ó armada, ó al de la milicia nacional. Estarán igualmente esentos de toda carga ó contribucion extraordinaria ó préstamo forzoso, y en los impuestos ordinarios que satisfagan por razon de su industria, comercio ó propiedades serán tratados como los súbditos ó ciudadanos de la nacion mas favorecida. ARTICULO DUODECIMO. Entre tanto que su Magestad Católica y la República de Nicaragua ajustan y concluyen un tratado de comercio y navegacion fundado en principios de recíprocas ventajas para uno y otro país los súbditos y ciudadanos de los Estados serán considerados para el adeudo de derechos por los frutos, efectos y mercaderías que importaren ó esportaren de los territorios de las altas partes contratantes, así como para el pago de los derechos de puertos, en los mismos términos que los de la nacion mas favorecida. Su Magestad Católica y la República de Nicaragua se harán recíprocamente extensivas las concesiones, que en punto á comercio y navegacion hayan estipulado en lo sucesivo estipularen, con cualquiera otra nacion, y estos favores se disfrutarán gratuitamente si la concesion hubiese sido gratuita. y en otro caso, con las mismas condiciones con que se hubiese estipulado, ó se acuerda. rá por mutuo convenio una compensacion equivalente en cuanto sea posible. ARTICULO DECIMOTERCIO En caso de efectuarse en todo ó parte, por el territorio de Nicaragua, la proyectada comunicacion interoceánica, sea por medio de canales, por ferro-carriles ó por estos ú otros medios combinados, la bandera y las mercaderías españolas así como los súbditos de su Magestad Católica, disfrutarán en el tránsito de las mismas ventajas y esenciones otorgadas a las naciones mas favorecidas. Su Magestad Católica se compromete por su parte á unir sus esfuerzos á los del Gobierno de Nicaragua y a los de las Potencias que se concierten para llevar á cabo la grande obra ele garantir la neutralidad de esta importante via de comunicacion interoceánica, con el fin de conservar libre su tránsito, de protegerla contra todo embargo ó confiscacion y de asegurar el capital invertido en ella. Dicha proteccion y garantía se cenceden condicionalmente y pueden ser retiradas si el Gobierno de su Magestad entiende que se adoptan á establecen, respecto al tráfico que en el canal se haga, disposiciones que contrarian el espíritu y tendencia de las espresadas garantías, ya haciendo injustas preferencias ó ya imponiendo opresivas exacciones ó excesivos derechos á los pasajeros, buques ó mercancías. Sin embargo, Su Magestad Catolica no retirará la referida proteccion y garantía, sin noticiarlo seis meses antes al Gobierno de Nicaragua. ARTICULO DECIMOCUARTO. Su Magestad Católica y la República de Nicaragua podrán enviarse recíprocamente agentes diplomáticos y establecer Cónsules en los puntos que lo permitan las leyes, y acreditados y reconocidos que sean tales agentes diplomáticos ó consulares por el Gobierno cerca del cual residan, ó en cuyo territorio desempeñen su encargo, disfrutarán de las franquicias, privilegios é inmunidades de que se hayen en posesion los de igual clase de la nacion mas favorecida y desempeñarán en los mismos términos todas las funciones propias de su cargo. ARTICULO DECIMOQUINTO. En los abintestatos que ocurran de súbditos españoles establecidos en Nicaragua ó de ciudadanos de esta República en España, sus respectivos Cónsules formarán el inventario de los bienes del finado, de acuerdo con la autoridad local, y en los mismos términos proveerán á lá custodia de dichos bienes hasta que se presente el heredero ó su legítimo representante. En los casos de naufragio, los cónsules respectivos podrán tambien proceder al salvamento de acuerdo con la autoridad local competente. Los agentes diplomáticos y consulares estarán autorizados para reclamar que se restituyan a su bordo los desertores de los buques de guerra y mercantes de su nacion que lleguen á los puertos de sus respectivas residencias; y ambas partes contratantes se comprometen á hacer cuanto esté de su parte. para, que los dichos desertores sean aprehendidos y custodiados hasta que se verifique la entrega.

ARTICULO DECIMOSEXTO. Deseosa Su Magestad Católica y la República de Nicaragua de conservar la paz y buena armonía que felizmente acaban de restablecer por el presente tratado declaran solemne y formalmente. 1 ° Que cualquiera ventaja ó ventajas que adquirieren en virtud de los artículos anteriores son y deben entenderse como una compensación de los beneficios que mutuamente se confieren por ellos; y - 2. ° Que sí (lo que Dios no permita) se interrumpiese la buena armonía que debe reinar en lo venidero entre las partes contratantes, por falta de inteligencia de los artículos aquí convenidos, ó por otro motivo cualquiera de agravio ó queja, ninguna de las partes podrá autorizar actos de represalia ú hostilidad por mar ó tierra, sin haber presentado antes á la otra una memoria justificativa de los motivos en que funde la injuria o agravio y denegándose la correspondiente satisfacción. ARTICULO DECIMOSÉTIMO. El presente tratado según se halla extendido en diecisiete artículos será ratificado y las ratificaciones se canjearán en esta Corte en el término de un año, ó antes si fuere posible. En fé de lo cual, nos los infrascritos Plenipotenciarios de Su Magestad Católica y de la República de Nicaragua lo hemos firmado por duplicado y sellado con nuestros sellos particulares en Madrid, á 25 de Julio de 1850— José de Marcoleta— L. S.—Pedro José Pidal — L. S. ARTICULO 2. ° Tan luego que el presente tratado haya obtenido igual ratificación del Gobierno de Magestad Católica Doña Isabel II, se tendrá y cumplirá como ley del Estado soberano de Nicaragua. Dado en la Sala de sesiones de la Cámara de Representantes en Santiago de Managua, á 15 de Marzo de 1851— Mateo Mayorga— R. Joaquin Cuadra R. S.— Francisco Barberena R. S --Al Supremo Poder Ejecutivo—Sala de la Cámara del Senado.— Santiago de Managua, Marzo 20 de 1851= Justo Abaunza S. P.— Nicacio del Castillo S. S.-J. de Jesus Robleto S. S. Por tanto: ejecútese-- Managua Marzo 21 de 1851. Norberto Ramírez. Al Sr. Sebastian Salinas Secretario del

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Posted by [Annette](#) at [9:33 AM](#)

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

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Wednesday, June 21, 2017

## French Canadian Ancestors: Surprising finds, and pronunciation counts



Painting at the Orsay Paris

Focusing on reading the documents related to French Canadian ancestors in lines leading back to Paris I've discovered some interesting information, such as ancestor Gervais Lambert was a Churchwarden, and other ancestors living into extreme old age. Also found an ancestor who was an edge tool maker. Found something surprising at the end of today's search.

Aurelie Lambert certainly had many Parisian ancestors on her tree! I haven't found any in the Masson line so far. Appears she had 4 filles du roi ancestors from Paris, and 1 male ancestor who migrated from Paris to Quebec. Today I'm documenting Anne Perrault's ancestry. Anne migrated to Quebec from Paris as a fille du roi.

I've gone over Aurelie's family documentation in my previous two blog posts. This time I'll start deeper into her tree, with Grandmother Madeleine Lamy, who married Joseph Lambert Sr.. Her marriage record states her parents were Joseph Lamy and Madeleine decotiaux .There is no marriage record for a Madeleine Decotiaux and Joseph



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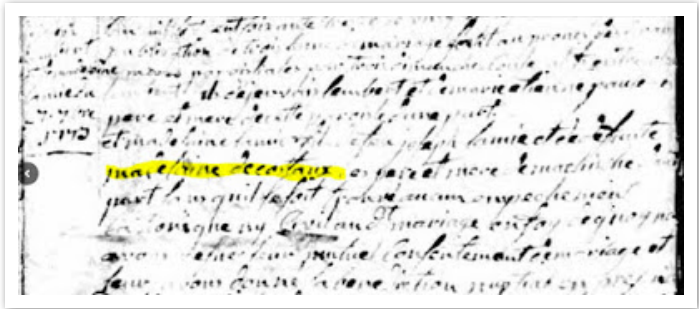


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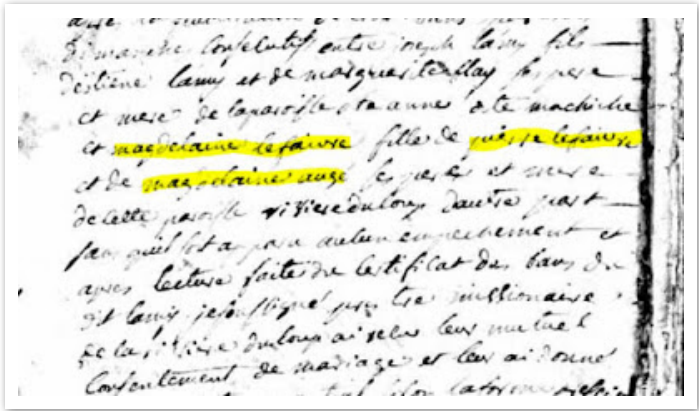
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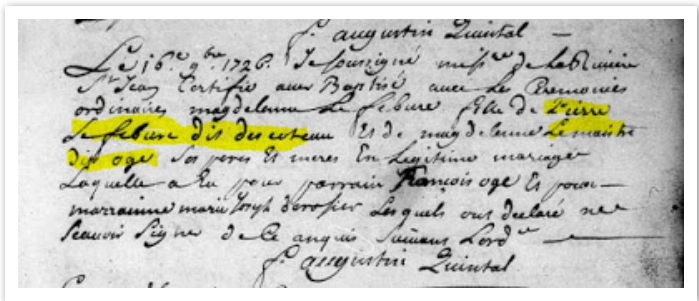
Lamy. We slam into a wall immediately, again. Online trees give this Madeleine's full name as Madeleine Genevieve Lefebvre Decoteaux. Sounds like we are dealing with dit names again.



There is a marriage record for Madeleine Lefebvre and a Joseph Lamy. I need to verify this is the correct couple by confirming Decotaux is one of Madeleine's names. Her marriage record to Joseph Lamy on 10 February 1749, in Louiseville, doesn't confirm this. It actually gives Madeleine's name as Magdeleine Lefavre, a phonetic spelling of her surname. Her father's name is Pierre Lefavre.

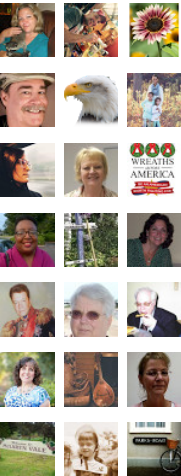


I now look to her birth record to see if it confirms Decotaux as one of her names? Yes it actually does! Her birth record states her father's name was Pierre Lefebvre dit Decoteaux, phonetically the same as Decotaux. Obviously his daughter Madeleine used the same dit name.



Assured that I have the correct marriage document I can now use the names listed to go another generation back. I now follow Madeleine Lefebvre dit Decotaux's husbands line, which leads back to Anne Perrault. His parents are given as Etienne Lamy and Marguerite Blay. To document Anne's line I need to follow the Blay line. A problem crops up because many online trees state the name is Blais, not Blay. This could be a phonetic spelling as the name Blais may contain a silent "S"? This video confirms the "S" is silent

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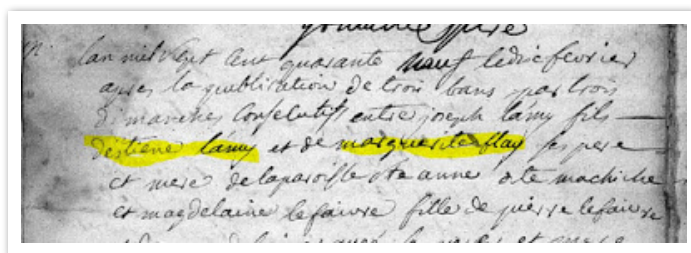
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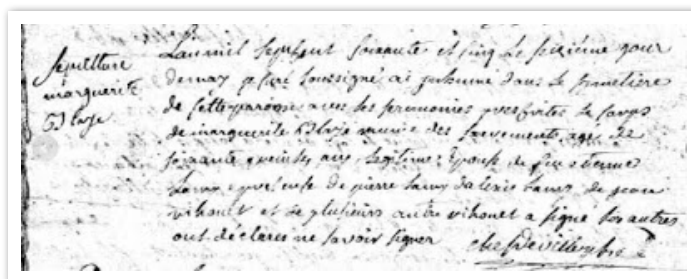
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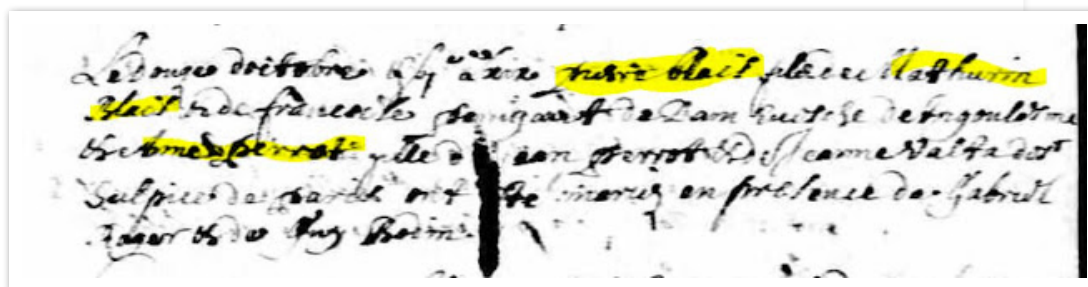
Joseph Lambert's baptismal record gives his mother's surname as Blay. His godmother is also a Blay. He was baptized 21 March 1723 in Berthier, at St-Gabriel and Kildare.

Joseph's mother Marguerite Blay or Blais died 6 May 1765 in Yamachiche, Quebec. Bringing this family into the area where all my lines meet. Her name is again spelled similarly as Blaye, her husband's name is given as Etienne Lamy.



Unfortunately the marriage record in the Catholic Church records for Etienne Lamy and Marguerite Blay or Blais hasn't survived. A marriage contract dated 11 February 1714 has survived. It gives Marguerite's name as Blais, and her father is named as Pierre Blais. Her mother's name is given as Anne Perreau, instead of Perrault. This is another phonetic spelling as both are pronounced the same way. We find Anne's surname spelled Perrot, Perrault, Perreau etc, all are pronounced the same in French. Aux, eau, and ot endings are all pronounced O. Even the ault ending is pronounced O. Now I need the marriage record for Pierre Blais and Anne Perrault, or a similarly pronounced spelling.

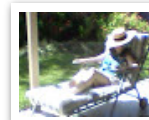
There is indeed a surviving marriage record for Pierre Blais and target ancestor Anne Perrault. They were married in St-Famille, Quebec in 1668. It confirms her family Parish as St. Sulpice, Paris. Anne's name is spelled Perrot here.



I was very surprised to find that Anne Perrault, Perrot etc., died the same day my ancestor Marguerite Blais was born, on 29 June 1688 in St-Jean, Quebec. Evidently dying in childbirth. Anne was 45 when Marguerite was born, which may have led to complications with the birth? Marguerite's baptismal record states Anne was defunct when she was

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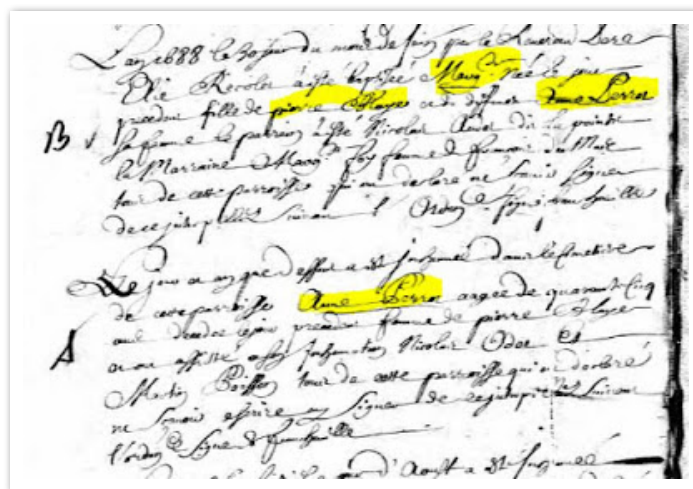


Annette

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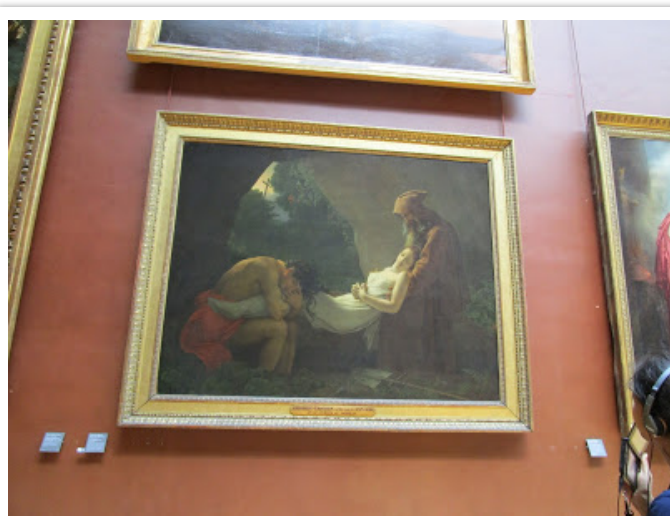
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baptized. She was probably baptized on the day she was born.



Sadly I've reached the targeted ancestor Anne Perrault only to find out my ancestor never got to know her Parisian mother Anne. Pierre Blais married again soon after Anne's death. Hopefully Marguerite was well treated by her stepmother?

So far I'm finding my "French In Action" studies have helped me read the dates on the documents. These documents are easy to read once you pick up on the key words, and phrases used. There were standard phrase used in these documents. These documents can contain interesting insights into the lives of our ancestors. I encourage everyone to read them.



Painting Louvre Paris

Posted by Annette at 11:52 AM 2 comments: 

Saturday, June 17, 2017

## French Canadian Research: The importance of godparents and notarial records

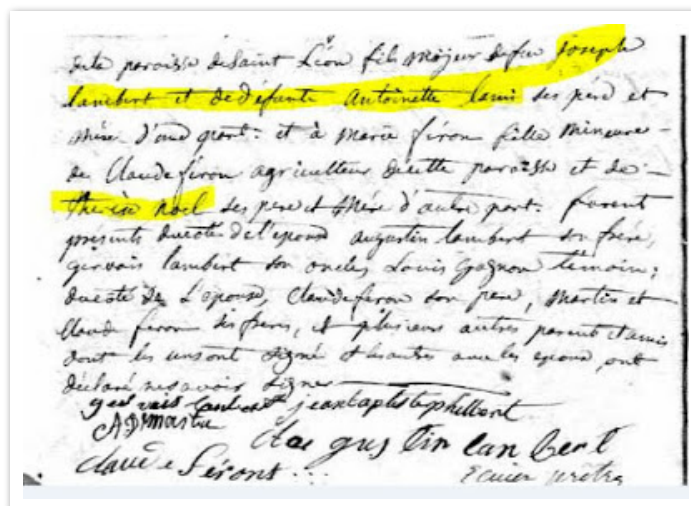




Still reading through the actual Quebec Catholic Church records that link the generations. I'm focusing on lines that go back to Parisian origins. I have copied hundreds of supposed ancestors from PRDH. I have not read through every document for the 200 or more ancestors I've found at PRDH. I have been slowly reviewing these records. I've posted copies of the documents for some of my lines on this blog before. I'm focusing on those with Parisian links since I just returned from Paris.

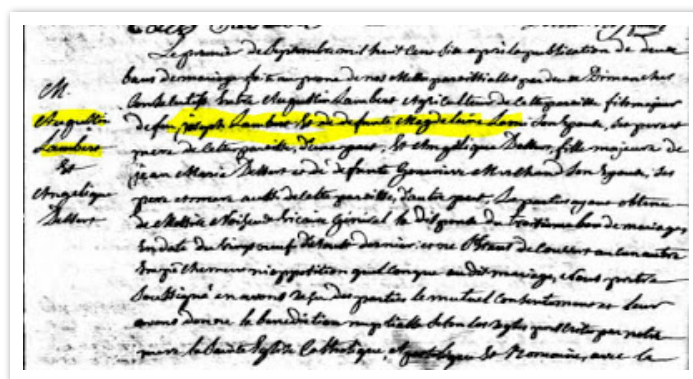
Today my target line is Lambert. My goal is to prove fille du roi Elisabeth Aubert is a direct ancestor. She was also a Parisian before migrating to Quebec. Like Catherine Clerice her family lived in the St-Sulpice Parish. She is also an ancestor of Aurelie Lambert.

Now I begin with Aurelie Lambert once again.

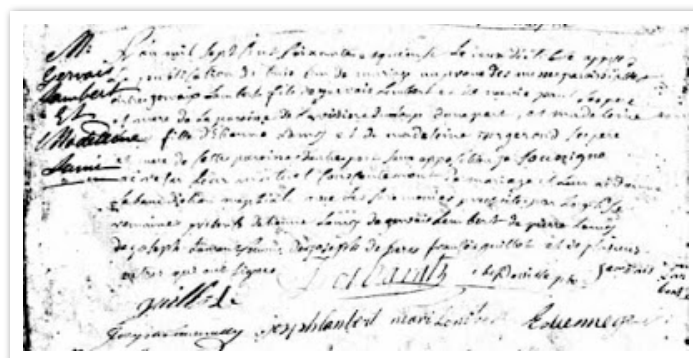


Looking at Aurelie's parents' marriage document we see that her parents were Joseph Lambert and Marie Ferron who married 15 August 1808 in Yamachiche. This time following the Lambert line back we focus on the parents of Joseph Lambert. In order to take the Lambert line back we need his parents marriage record to get Aurelie Lambert's grandparents' names.

I was able to find an original marriage record for Joseph Lambert and Marie Ferron. Joseph Lambert's parents names are given as Joseph Lambert and Antoinette Lami, according to the marriage record. I searched for their marriage record. I couldn't find one for them. Already we hit a brickwall. There are family members listed on the Lambert/Ferron marriage document. According to the document Joseph had a brother named Augustin Lambert, and an uncle named Gervais Lambert. I found an Augustin Lambert who married an Angelique Dessert in Louiseville, Quebec. Louiseville borders Yamachiche. This Augustin's parents are Joseph Lambert and Madeleine Lamy, not Antoinette Lamy. Augustin Lambert and Angelique Dessert married on 1 September 1806. Both of his parents are said to be dead. Both of my ancestor Joseph's parents are said to be dead when he married in 1808. Sounds like Antoinette isn't the correct first name? There are no marriage records for an Augustin Lambert with a mother named Antoinette either.

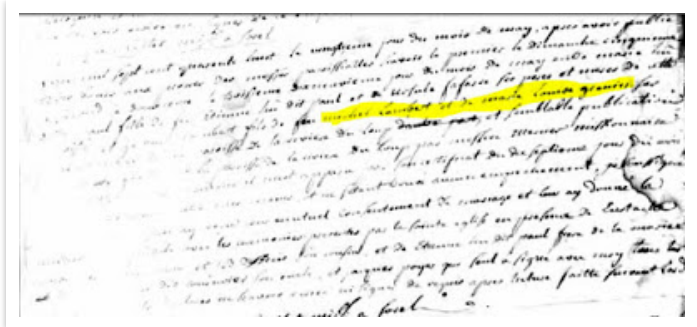


Looking at Gervais Lambert records he married a Madeleine Lamy 02 October 1775 Yamachiche, Québec (evidently a cousin of Joseph Lambert's wife). This appears to be the Gervais described as the uncle of Joseph Lambert? His parents are Gervais Lambert and Marie Paul.



A Gervais Lambert and Marie Paul married in Sorel, Quebec on 20 May 1748 (Gervais occupation was churchwarden). Gervais Lambert's parents are said to be Michel Lambert and Louise Grenier.



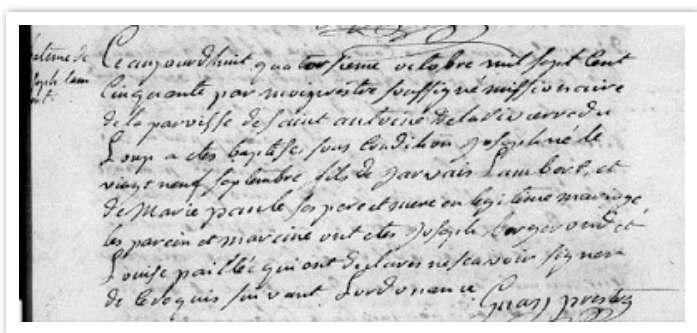


The marriage record at the online PRDH for Michel Lambert and Lousie Garnier Grenier states they married in the Chapel of St. Croix, Lotbiniere on 29 November 1708.

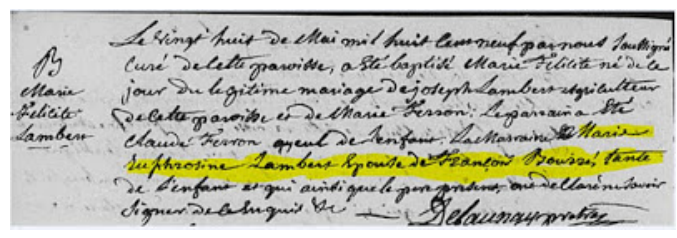
To establish a link between my ancestor Joseph Lambert, married to Marie Ferron, I now looked into the possibility that Antoinette wasn't Joseph's mother's name. I found a Joseph Lambert born to Joseph Lambert and Marguerite Lamy. He was born in Louiseville, Quebec on 9 March 1777. Looking for information on his mother I found she was born in Yamachiche where there is indeed a street currently named Lamy.

10	10	Lambert	Antoinette	Charles & Benoit Bousset (de la paroisse)	27
11	11	Lacharite	De Joseph	Joseph & Catherine Bouchard	27
12	12	Lacharite	De Joseph	Joseph & Catherine Bouchard	27
13	13	Lacharite	De Joseph	Joseph & Catherine Bouchard	27
14	14	Lacharite	De Joseph	Joseph & Catherine Bouchard	27
15	15	Lacharite	De Joseph	Joseph & Catherine Bouchard	27
16	16	Lacharite	De Joseph	Joseph & Catherine Bouchard	27
17	17	Lacharite	De Joseph	Joseph & Catherine Bouchard	27
18	18	Lacharite	De Joseph	Joseph & Catherine Bouchard	27
19	19	Lacharite	De Joseph	Joseph & Catherine Bouchard	27
20	20	Lacharite	De Joseph	Joseph & Catherine Bouchard	27

Joseph's father was born 29 September 1750 in Louiseville, Quebec. He was born to Gervais Lambert and Marie Paul as stated in the marriage record.

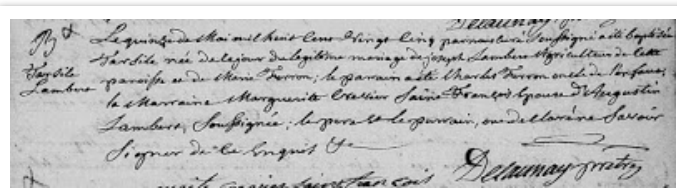


To try to find even more circumstantial evidence for a connection between Joseph Lambert and these families I looked at the baptismal records for all of his children. I was interested in the godparents of his children. This paid off because a sister was a godparent. One of the keys to establishing a link to Joseph and Madeinline Lamy was a baptismal record for Marie Felicite Lambert. She was said to be the daughter of Joseph Lambert and Marie Ferron, in her baptismal record. Her godmother was Marie Euphrosine Lambert, the record states she is her tante, or Aunt, her husband was recorded as Francois Bourre.

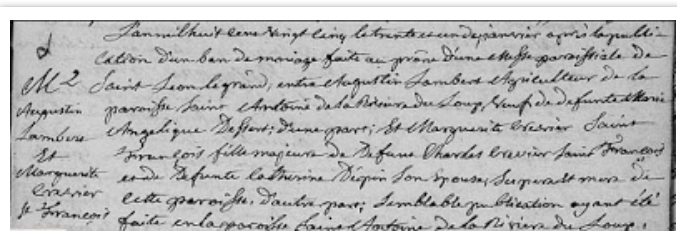


Euphrosine Lambert married Francois Bourre in Louiseville, Quebec on 21 January 1799. Her parents are said to be Joseph Lambert and Madeleine Lamy. This seems to confirm Joseph's mother was Madeleine and not Antoinette, since the baptismal record indicates Marie Euphrosine is his sister. Madeleine died when her son Joseph was about 10 years old. It's possible he didn't know her name, or someone else provided the name Antoinette?

There is more evidence that Joseph was son of Joseph Lambert and Madeleine Lamy. Another child's baptismal record also provides a clue. Tarsile Lambert was another child of Joseph Lambert and Marie Ferron. The child's godmother was Marguerite Crevier the second wife of Augustin Lambert. This Augustin was the son of Joseph Lambert and Madeleine Lamy (oddly Tarsile was again baptized a year later? Maybe there was a falling out with Augustin and his wife?)



Here is the marriage record for Augustin Lambert and Madeleine Crevier explaining that he was a widower. His first marriage record states his parents names. Augustin and a Gervais Lambert appear on baptismal certificates for the children of Joseph Lambert and Marie Ferron.



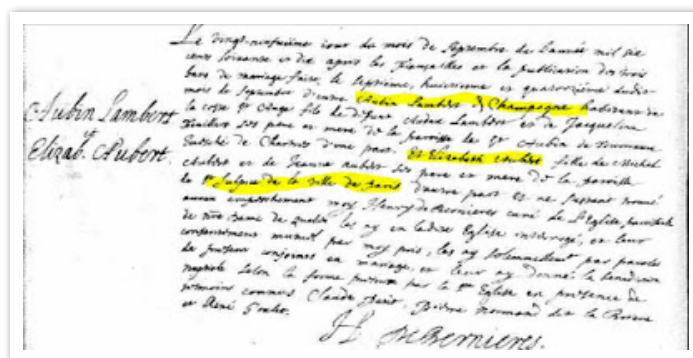
How do we further establish a tie with the Lambert family of the Louiseville area, and the family of St-Croix, Lotbinaire? Gervais Lambert and Marie Hus Paul had another son named Eustache Lambert. He was born in 1856 in Louiseville, Quebec. His godfather was Eustache Lambert. I assume this is Gervais' brother? According to the elder Eustache's marriage record his parents were Michel Lambert and Louise Grenier of St. Croix, Quebec.

Date	Paroisse	Nom	Prénoms	Age	Paroisse	Nom	Prénoms	Age
1752	St. Croix	Michel	Lambert	22	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Joseph	Lambert	21	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Augustin	Lambert	20	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Charles	Lambert	19	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	18	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	17	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	16	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	15	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	14	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	13	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	12	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	11	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	10	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	9	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	8	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	7	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	6	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	5	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	4	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	3	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	2	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17
1752	St. Croix	Marie	Lambert	1	St. Croix	Marie	Hus Paul	17

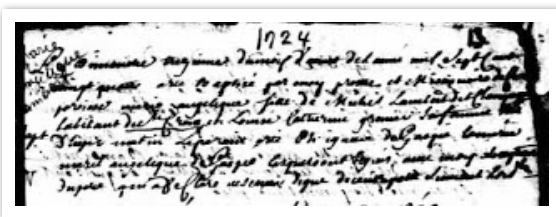
I feel the circumstantial case for my Joseph Lambert being the son of Joseph Lambert and Madeleine Lamy is strong. The fact his uncle is Gervais Lambert son of Michel Lambert and Louise Lambert is also a strong link. Eustache's marriage record naming St-Croix as his parents place of origin further strengthens the ties.

Taking the family line further we also run into some disagreements with existing compiled genealogies. Joseph Lambert Sr.'s parents would be Michel Lambert and Louise Grenier, as stated on his marriage record. According to Father Ciprien Tanguay, lived 1819-1902, compiler of "*Dictionnaire généalogique des Familles Canadiennes depuis la fondation de la colonie jusqu'à nos jours*" a genealogical dictionary of early families, Michel Lambert was the son of Pierre Lambert and Marie LeNormand. This was a guess on Fr. Tanguay's part because the marriage record he would have seen didn't contain the names of Michel's parents. Since then additional research has uncovered a notarial record naming Michel's parents. This is a partial transcription of Michel Lambert and Louise Grenier's marriage contract from Wikitree "*Michel Lambert fils de Aubin Lambert et de Elisabeth Aubert ces père et mère habitant Dem(eurant) en pa parr(oisse) de Saint nicollas.*"

To further prove this line we turn to the marriage record of Aubin Lambert and Elisabeth Aubert. They married 29 September 1670, Quebec.



Aubin Lambert's dit name was Champagne, as stated in the above marriage record. Michel Lambert's dit name was also Champagne as seen in this baptismal document. This is a baptismal record for Michel Lambert and Louise Grenier's daughter Angelique. Michel's dit name is recorded here as Champagne. Further proof that Aubin Lambert dit Champagne is his father. .

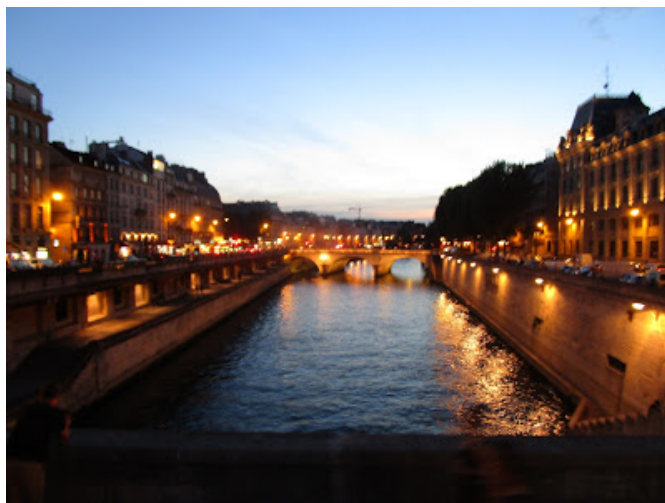


The marriage record for Aubin Lambert and Elisabeth Aubert brings me to today's target Parisian ancestor. Elisabeth Aubert's parents parish is recorded as St-Sulpice, Paris. She was not baptized there however. Elisabeth was baptized on 13 April 1648. At that time the new St-Sulpice church was just being built. She was instead baptized at **Saint-Jacques-de-la-Boucherie**. Only the beautiful tower of that church still stands. The church was built in the 16th Century in the flamboyant gothic style. When I was in Paris a couple weeks ago I didn't realize the church had a family connection. I walked over to the old church tower thinking it would lead to a church. Instead I just found the lone tower standing by itself. It really is beautiful, and towers over the lower buildings in the area, making it easy to spot.



According to some information posted at [Wikitree](#) the Aubert family lived on the [Pont au Change](#) near the [Conciergerie](#) in Paris. Yes, people actually had houses built on this bridge. A flood wiped out the bridge in the 1600's and it was rebuilt at the expense of the occupants. I assume that is why the names of the occupants are known? I loved spending time looking at the river when I was in Paris. A walk or boat ride along the beautiful Seine is a highlight of a visit to Paris. I suspect the river wasn't very nice when the Aubert family live on that bridge?

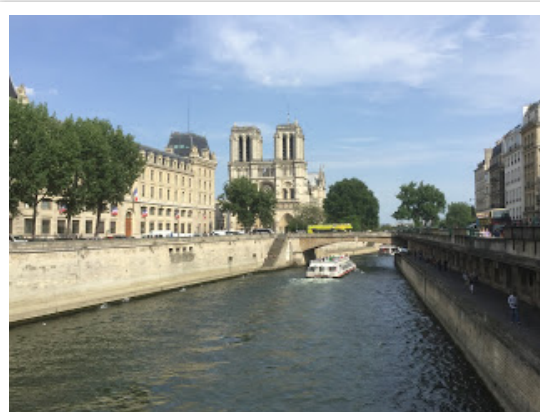
In closing godparents names, and Notarial records can resolve problems and fill in gaps in French Canadian Catholic Church records.





Thursday, June 15, 2017

## Reviewing My French Canadian Research After Visit To France



I visited Paris for the first time in early June of this year. I was primarily there as a tourist sightseeing. I decided to take a look a couple of the churches in Paris with ties to our family. My ancestors Jacques Lussier and Catherine Clerice were from Paris. They migrated to Quebec in the 17th Century. Catherine Clerice was a fille du roi. Filles du roi were single French women imported into Quebec in order to marry. There was a shortage of marriageable women in New France. Orphans and women with limited opportunities for marriage in France were offered free passage to Quebec.

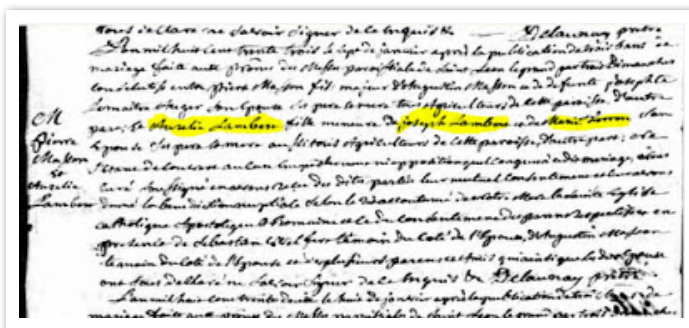
Now that I'm back from France I'm taking another look at the documentary proof I have for my relationship to my Parisian ancestors. Here I begin with Jacques Lussier and Catherine Clerice.

Going over my documentation to prove my relationship with Jacques Lussier and his wife Catherine Clerice I begin with Aurelie Lambert born 1813 in St-Leon, Quebec.



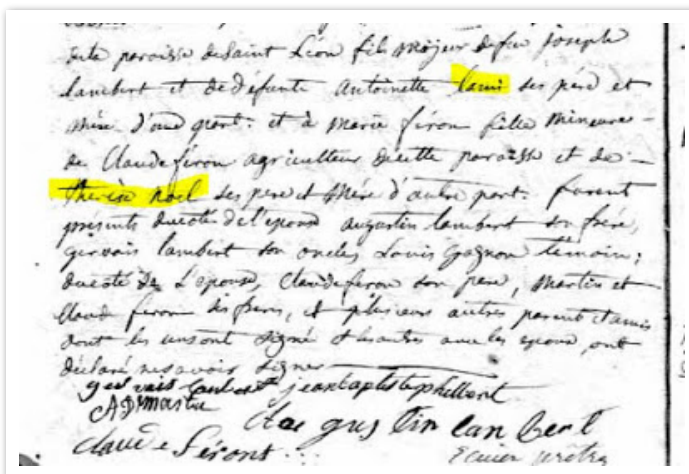


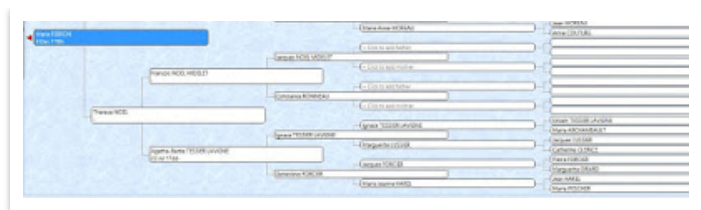
I already have firm documentation up until Aurelie. I had difficulty finding her birth record, and just found it recently. I found Aurelie Lambert and Pierre Masson's marriage record many years ago. Pierre Masson and Aurelie Lambert married 7 Jan 1833 in St. Leon, Quebec. According to that record Aurelie's parents were Joseph Lambert and Marie Ferron. This is the beginning of the line leading to Jacques Lussier and Catherine Clerice.



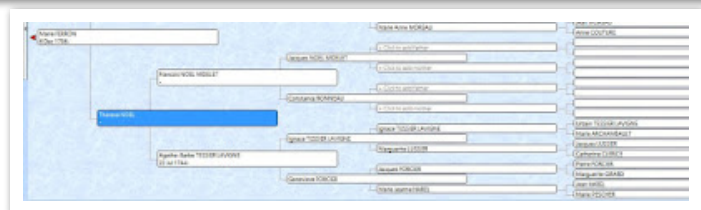
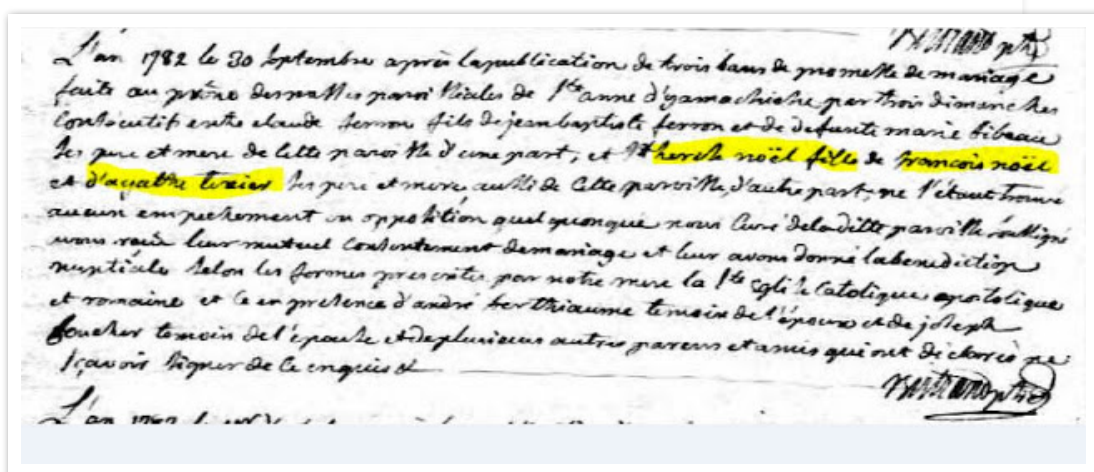
Aurelie's birth record also confirms her parent names, which are the same as her marriage record.

So far so good. We go back another generation by looking for a marriage for Aurelie's parents. There is a surviving marriage record. Even though Quebec has many great surviving Catholic church records sometimes pages are seriously damaged, or are missing. In this case the page is still legible, and hasn't been removed. This record names the parents of Aurelie's mother Marie Ferron. Joseph Lambert and Marie Ferron married 15 August 1808 in Yamachiche. It's Marie Ferron's mother Therese Noel's line that links to Jacques Lussier and Catherine Clerice.



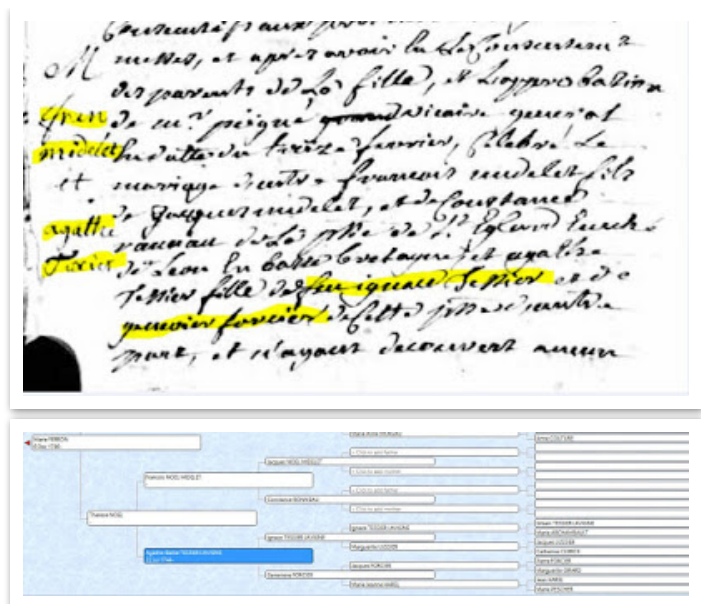


The next step is to check Marie Ferron's parents marriage record to find the names of her maternal grandparents, which will lead to Jacques and Clerice's line. There is a marriage record for Claude Ferron and Therese Noel still surviving. Claude Ferron and Therese Noel married 30 September 1782 in Yamachiche. Yamachiche, where Aurelie Lambert's parents, and grandparents, married bordered St. Leon. Apparently Aurelie and husband Pierre Masson lived on the border with Yamachiche, in St Leon as there is a street named Rue Du Masson near Yamachiche, and a nearby street in Yamachiche with another family name Lamy.



From here I follow Aurelie Lambert's maternal line grandmother, and Marie Ferron's mother, Therese Noel's line. Here we hit a snag because there are no marriage records for the couple named as Therese's parents? According to the above marriage record her parents were Francois Noel and Agathe Texier. The family couldn't be extended any farther back if not for notarial records. These records fill in the gaps that can occur when the Catholic church records fall short.

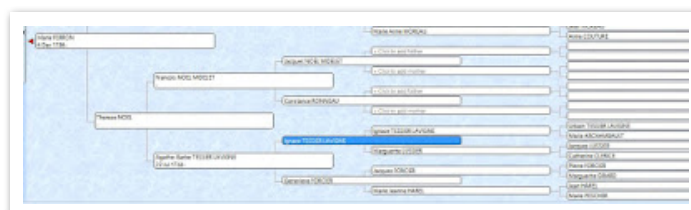
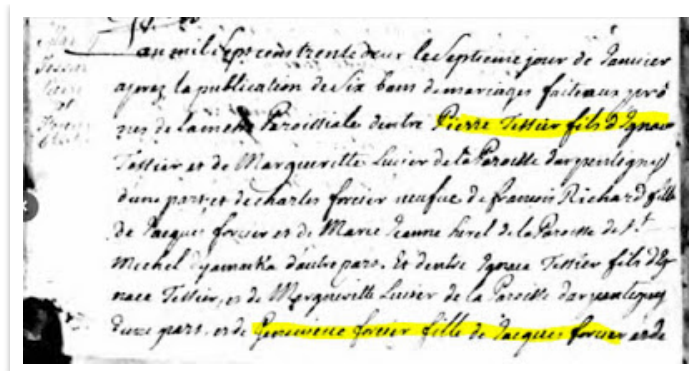
There is a marriage record for a Francois Midelet and Agathe Tessier, however. This couple married 5 Mar 1764 in Berthier-en-Haut, Quebec, Canada. This parish is 24 miles from Yamachiche. This is the closest match, but a link must be established. Since the French use dit names, which are additions to the family name, Midelet may be a dit name? They were often used to separate family lines. These names could be descriptive of the place of origin in France the person was from, or a personality trait. The dit names can be passed down. A person or family can change their dit name, it isn't fixed. The dit name may also become the family name, then becoming a fixed name. Dit names create confusion when trying to follow someone in documents.



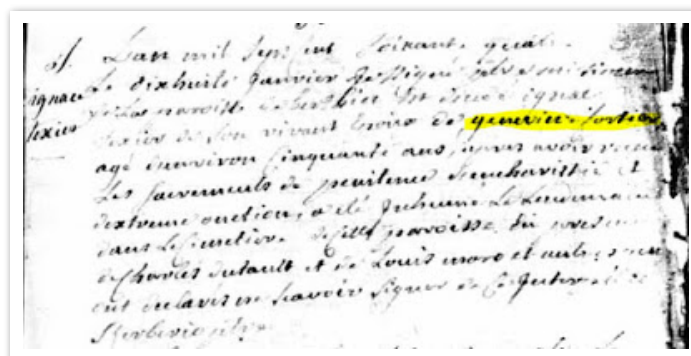
Midelet may have been a dit name? It appears Francois Noel and Francois Midelet are indeed the same person. A notarial record links Francois Noel, of Yamachiche, and Geneveive Forcier, the mother of Agathe Tessier listed in the marriage record. Later records list Francois Noel dit Breton, so he may have picked up another dit name associated with the place in France he came from. There is only one record in the thousands of pages of records for Quebec with the name Midelet, and that is the marriage record I've referred to. It would appear that was a mistake, a dit name was changed, or there was an intentional effort to mislead? I can't find the Parish he was supposedly from in France either?

"In 1765, Geneviève Forcier widow of Ignace Tessier, ratified an agreement with François Noël (who dropped the name of Midelet), a farmer from Yamachiche, husband of Agathe Tessier (National Archives of Quebec in Montreal, notary's office Barthélemy Faribault, April 1765). " French version: *"En 1765, Geneviève Forcier veuve d'Ignace Tessier ratifie une convention avec François Noël (qui laisse tomber le nom de Midelet), farinier de Yamachiche, époux d'Agathe Tessier (Archives nationales du Québec à Montréal, greffe du notaire Barthélemy Faribault, 22 avril 1765)."* This information regarding a notarial record appears on a website forum called site [L'Autochtone de référence en généalogie Amérindienne au Québec](#).

I can now document the line further. I now need to switch to the paternal line of Agathe Tessier. Her father Ignace Tessier's line links to the Parisian line. I need the marriage record for Ignace Tessier and Genevieve Forcier, parents of Agathe Tessier. There is a marriage record indexed under these names, but the actual record says Pierre Tessier and Genevieve Forcier? Not Ignace. They married married 7 Jan 1732 in Saint Michel, Yamaska, Quebec. The first couple of children born in Yamaska after the marriage have baptismal records with parents named as Pierre Tessier and Genevieve Forcier. The records of their later children name their parents as Ignace Tessier and Genevieve Forcier. Could be his name was Pierre Ignace Tessier? In many cases I see either of two, or even more names, used interchangeably in the records by many of these early settlers. They can switch between first and middle names in records.



His name is recorded as Ignace Tessier in his death record. He died 18 Jan 1764 in Berthier-En-Haut, Quebec, Canada 16 miles from where he married and several children were born. Berthier-En-Haut is the same place where his daughter Agathe Tessier married Francois Midelet Noel.



I'm confident that the Pierre Tessier and Genevieve Forcier, as listed in the marriage record, are my ancestors. So now I need to verify Ignace Tessier Sr. and Marguerite Lussier's parents. Lucky there is a marriage record for this couple. They were married 23 May 1703 in Repentigny, Quebec, Canada. Repentigny is closer to Montreal than the other locations mentioned above. Jacques Luissier and Catherine Clarisse are named as parents of Marguerite in a birth record also still surviving. I've now documented the line down to this couple. The names are a better match. No doubts regarding this connection.



Après le 1703 après la publication d'actes Paris pour  
 l'union de Jeanne Teyssier fille de Jean Teyssier et de  
 Marie archambault by procès avec de St. Marie de  
 Marais agit de 22 ans d'une part et d'autre  
 Louis de Guigney Lussier et Catherine Clerice  
 by procès avec de 18 ans d'autre part, n'est pas  
 trouvé aucun empêchement légitime. Lesdits  
 parties ont pris leur mutuel consentement par  
 lequel de présent et leur ai donné la benediction

A screenshot of a genealogy software interface. It displays a family tree diagram with several branches. Names like 'Jeanne Teyssier' and 'Marie archambault' are visible. There are also dates and other details associated with the entries. The interface includes search bars and navigation options.

The baptismal certificate for Marguerite seems to state her parents are Jacques Lhussier and Catherine Clerice. Not easy to read.

Le cinquième jour du mois de Septembre de l'année mil six cent quatre vingt dix sept fut  
 baptisé par le Ministre de la paroisse de St. Eustache de Paris un enfant  
 Marguerite fille de Jacques Lhussier et de Catherine Clerice  
 Le père Lhussier est de la paroisse de St. Eustache de Paris et la mère Clerice  
 est de la paroisse de St. Sulpice de Paris. Lesdits parents ont pris leur  
 mutuel consentement par lequel de présent et leur ai donné la benediction

The final record connecting Jacques Lussier and Catherine Clerice to their Paris parishes is their marriage record. It states Jacques' parish was St. Eustache, Paris, and Catherine's family parish was St. Sulpice.

Le troisième jour du mois d'Octobre de l'année mil six cent quatre vingt dix sept fut  
 célébré par le Ministre de la paroisse de St. Eustache de Paris le mariage  
 de deux bons de mariage Jeanne Jacques Lussier habitant de  
 la paroisse de St. Eustache de Paris et de Marie Catherine Clerice  
 fille de Jacques Lussier et de Marie Catherine Clerice  
 de la paroisse de St. Sulpice de Paris. Lesdits parents ont pris leur  
 mutuel consentement par lequel de présent et leur ai donné la benediction

A screenshot of a genealogy software interface, similar to the one above. It shows a family tree diagram with names and dates. The interface includes search bars and navigation options.

I don't have a copy of the notarial record for Francois Noel and Genevieve Forcier. This record is essential to establishing this line. I will enquire into getting a copy of this document if that is possible? If anyone has a copy they would be willing to share I would appreciate it.

Here are the pictures I took of St. Sulpice a parish which several of my ancestors originated

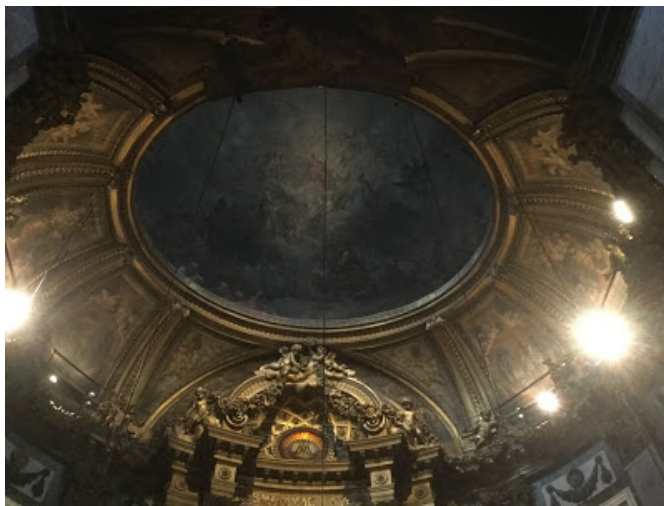


from including Catherine Clerice. The current church was being built while Catherine was living in Paris. The only part complete during her time there was a chapel within the church. Catherine left France in 1671 from the port of Dieppe.





This is the oldest part of the church. It was remodeled in the 18th century.





St-Eustache Church, the parish of Jacques Lussier, is much older than Ste-Sulpice. Built between 1532 and 1632. Below are some of the pictures I took of the interior.



Ste-Eustache photo from creative commons











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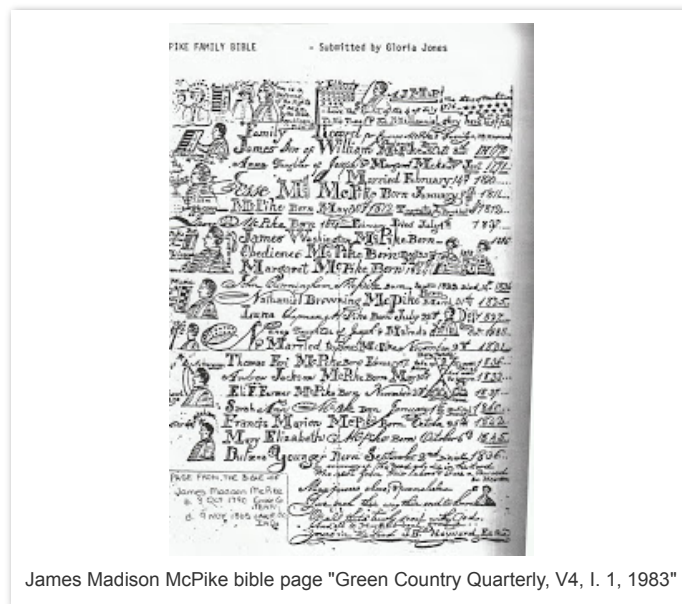
# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)[My Pedigree Charts](#)[Research Goals](#)

Tuesday, August 1, 2017

## Resolving Lineage Problems Preparing For DAR



The lineage of William and Obedience McPike demonstrates the problems presented by the easy dissemination of information via the internet. It's very easy to spread false information quickly, but difficult to pull it back.

According to a biography by William McPike's granddaughter, Eliza Ann, he was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. The only actual documentation we have doesn't actually state he was a soldier. It's just a pay voucher from the government of North Carolina. It could be for service or for goods he provided to the war effort? I believe it is for service based on what his granddaughter stated. The DAR describes it as "Patriotic Service".



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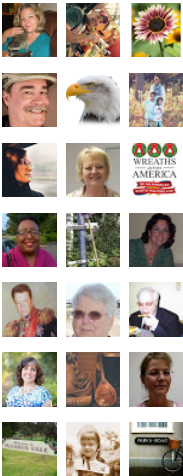
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wedding being celebrated in Heltonville, Lawrence county, Indiana, in the house in which the lady was born August 2, 1831. Her father, Nathan Browning, was born in east Tennessee July 30, 1785, and married **Obedience McPike**, whose birth occurred in east Tennessee December 31, 1788, and who was a daughter of a Revolutionary soldier. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Browning were born fourteen children: Polly, Amzi, William, Benjamin, Malinda, James, John, Jesse-Richard, Joseph W., Amanda J., Eliza A., Leonard M. and an infant. The father of this family was a farmer by occupation and died in Lawrence county at an advanced age, while his wife passed away at the age of sixty-five years. In his political views he was a Democrat and belonged to the New Light church.

Biography stating Eliza Ann's grandfather William McPike was a Revolutionary War Soldier. A Biographical History of Central Kansas page 447. Spouse Robert W. Hughes

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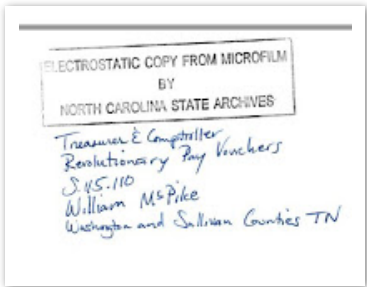
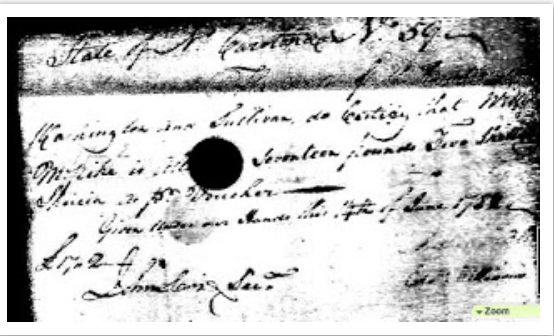
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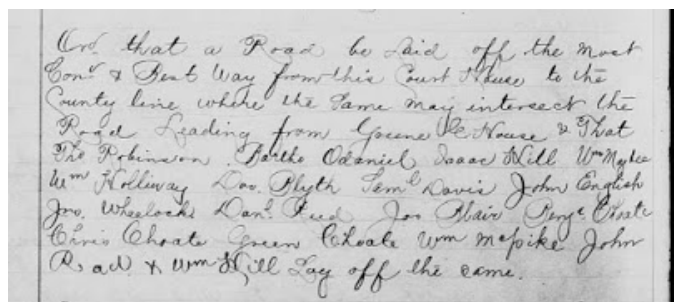
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  - October (1)
  - September (2)
  - August (1)
  - July (1)
  - June (2)
  - May (1)
  - April (1)
  - March (2)
  - February (1)
  - January (1)
- 2019 (16)
- 2018 (22)
- 2017 (31)



There are over 400 trees posted at Ancestry.com alone for William and Obedience McPike (her maiden name is said to be Holloway). All state this couple came to America from Ireland, where they had married. Highly unlikely they married in Ireland since William's family had been in Virginia since at least 1755, when a survey was executed for a John McPike on land later sold by William. William was likely born around 1750. The Holloway's living near the McPike family were also in America well before William and Obedience were married. It would also be odd that two daughters' biographies wouldn't present that interesting fact if it were true. I believe it was assumed they came from Ireland more recently because they seemed to pop up in Virginia so suddenly. Actually they were there, but no surviving documents caught them.

All of the Ancestry.com trees give Obedience McPike's maiden name as Holloway, but none give any source for that? At another site on the internet I found someone presenting a hint regarding this assumption. This post stated that both William McPike and a William Holloway appeared together in a Washington County, Tennessee road work order. I looked for a copy of this order which appeared in a 1784 Washington County, TN court order book, this book is now online at FamilySearch.org. Interesting, but it doesn't prove they were related.

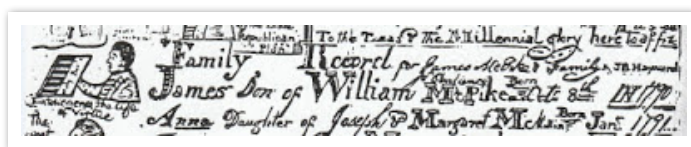


There was an Obedience Holloway born in 1799, in Tennessee. Obviously not the same person, as Obedience McPike was born around 1755. It could be Obedience is a commonly used name in the Holloway family? Still we need a source for Obedience's maiden name being Holloway.

Many also give William's date of death as 1794. That date came from DAR applications. The applications actually state he died sometime after 1794, as this is the last date they found him listed in the records. I've actually found him, along with wife Obedience, signing an 1803 deed in Franklin County, Virginia when he sold John McPike's old survey property from 1755. We can now say he died after 25 Dec 1802.

Obedience's vital information is even more off. Someone looked at a tombstone, which you can see at [Findagrave](#), for a granddaughter and assumed this was hers? If you look carefully the dates are all 19th Century. Obedience would have been born around the mid 17th Century based on the birth years of her children, which range from about 1775 to around 1795.

I had hoped that a bible record I had found listed in the "Green County Quarterly, V.4 I. 1983" would resolve some of these issues regarding Obedience's maiden name, vital dates and places of birth. This bible is purported to be the bible of James Madison McPike (my grandfather Charles Forgey's great-uncle). James was the son of William and Obedience McPike. Unfortunately the bible only states that James was the son of William McPike with Obedience's name added above, maybe at a later date? Not certain when her name was added? No maiden name given.



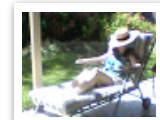
The James M. McPike bible entries were copied into the bible all at about the same time. It's a work of folk art, with not only dates and names but also drawings. One of the drawings refers to the American Revolution but does not mention the fact William McPike served?



Also interesting to see the name Obedience is repeated in James's family. We also see the surname Browning used as a middle name, which further proves the relationship between these families and ties them to records in East Tennessee (my great-grandmother was Isis

- 2016 (24)
- 2015 (30)
- 2014 (53)
- 2013 (59)
- 2012 (76)
- 2011 (94)

## About Me



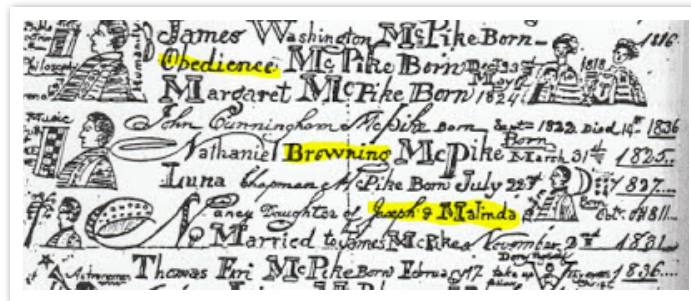
Annette

[View my complete profile](#)

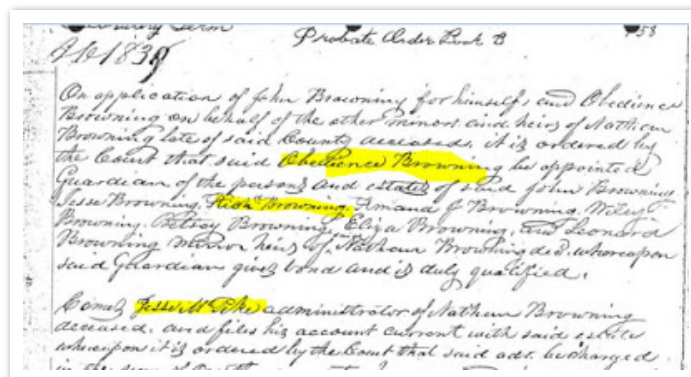
## Feedjit



Browning married to William Forgey, the McPike's are her ancestors). The Malinda married to Joseph Dayton listed here is actually Malinda Browning. She is named in her father Roger Browning's will, in Greene County, Tennessee, as Lina Dayton. All of this information is helpful in proving we are related to the McPike family of East Tennessee. The family migrated to Indiana, so some linkage is needed.



I have good evidence of my lineage up to Obedience, the daughter of William and Obedience McPike. This Obedience married Nathan Browning in East Tennessee. I have her probate information naming my ancestor Richard Browning as a minor heir of Nathan Browning. Obedience is named as a guardian since minor children were considered orphans if their father died. Jesse M. McPike, another proven child of William and Obedience McPike, was the administrator of Nathan Browning's estate.

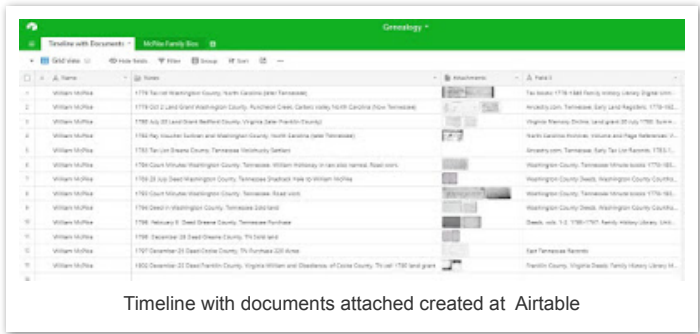


I made a timeline at [Airtable](#) and attached documents to help review problems with the McPike lineage. The fact William McPike seemed to be found in so many places does raise the question of whether there was more than one man by that name in East Tennessee at the same time? The fact William owns land in Virginia and Tennessee at the same time also raises some questions? Although that fact may be explained away in that William had apparently been raised in Virginia and inherited land there. Much more work needs to be done on this lineage and corrections need to be made. Melinda Browning left a bible, whereabouts unknown? That may contain more info on Obedience McPike-Browning and possibly her parents William and Obedience McPike?

I could easily join the DAR based on the service record of my ancestor Benjamin Wray. I have solid documentation, and even DNA support, for that lineage. My reason for joining based on William McPike's service would be to correct this lineage. At this point I believe there isn't actually a strong basis for anyone joining based on his service. We need better documentation. I am surprised the DAR would admit anyone without stronger proof? I did find an application stating Obedience, William's wife, died in 1828. This differs from all of the trees, which took their info from the tombstone misreading. I haven't ordered all of the supporting documentation for everyone who applied to the DAR, since this would be too costly. I am hoping there is better documentation I haven't seen yet? Is a granddaughter



stating her grandfather, not by name, was a Revolutionary War soldier enough? Is a pay voucher with the name William McPike enough proof? This is the only evidence I've seen so far.



Timeline with documents attached created at [Airtable](#)

Posted by [Annette](#) at [2:28 PM](#)    4 comments:   

Saturday, July 22, 2017

# Many Pennsylvania Deed Books Now Online

Last fall I blogged about deed books finally being available online at [FamilySearch.org](#). I had learned that the books with camera icons were available online. At that time I could find only indexes for some of the county books I needed. Looking the other day I found all of the books, not just the indexes, are now available for many Pennsylvania counties.

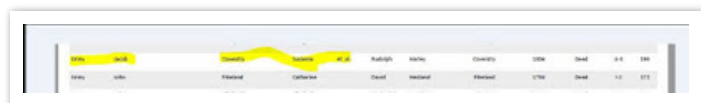
Counties such as Chester, Lancaster, Philadelphia in the east have all of their old microfilmed deed books online. In western Pennsylvania the counties of Greene, and Washington also have all of their old microfilmed books digitized and online. These are just a few of the counties which have deeds and other land records now online at [FamilySearch.org](#). Most are searchable from home, unlike Virginia. Looking at Virginia deeds online generally requires that you use the computers at the Family History Centers or Libraries.

Deed books, A (v. 1, pt. 1) 1688-1714 A (v. 1, pt. 2) 1688-1716 B (v. 2) 1706-1712	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	20852	
Deed books, C (v. 3) 1708-1718 D (v. 4) 1714-1730	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	20853	
Deed books, E (v. 5) 1730-1739 F (v. 6) 1738-1749	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	20854	
Deed books, G (v. 7) 1745-1750 H (v. 8) 1749-1753 I-J (v. 9) 1753-1755	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	20855	
Deed books, K (v. 10) 1755-1758 L (v. 11) 1758-1760	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	20856	
Deed books, M (v. 12) 1758-1763 N (v. 13) 1763-1765	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	20857	
Deed books, O (v. 14) 1764-1767 P (v. 15) 1766-1769	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	20858	
Deed books, Q (v. 16) 1767-1772 R (v. 17) 1769-1772	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	20859	

When I blogged about the deeds last year I shared the fact I found an interesting deed in the Chester County Deeds index. I'm not good with the key indexes so I used the Chester

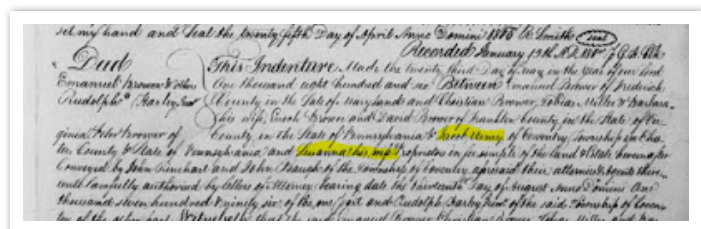
County government affiliated index online. This is what I posted then:

"I found an "et al deed" on the Chester County index which appears to be children selling parents property? It's a Jacob Urmey ux Susanna et al deed. Sadly this isn't in a book that is online at Family Search. The coverage of deeds is spotty. You have to scroll down to see which books are still only on microfilm and those that are online." November 2016

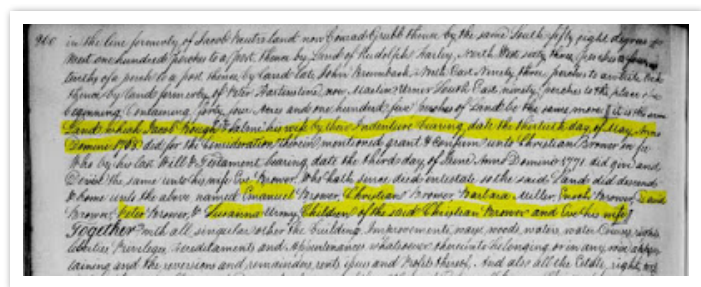


This book is now online. I have confirmed that it is a deed regarding the sale of Christian Brower and his wife Eve's land by their children. Christian Brower's will didn't include the names of his under aged children. My ancestor Susanna was not included in that will. Thankfully she is included in this deed along with her husband. By the time her mother Eve died she was married.

Susanna is correctly identified as the wife of Jacob Urmey in the 1806 deed.



Here we see all of Christian and Eve Brower's children identified, and Christian and Eve named as their parents. We even see a reference to the couple who originally sold the land to the Browsers along with the date of purchase.



There are also digitized deeds available online elsewhere. This is a great post about other sites with these records at ThoughtCo. by Kimberly Powell

<https://www.thoughtco.com/locating-historical-us-deeds-online-1422109>.

I've found gold in the deeds many times. This is just one example of how deeds can verify relationships. They are an important source for family history research.

Posted by Annette at 5:51 PM

No comments:



Wednesday, July 19, 2017

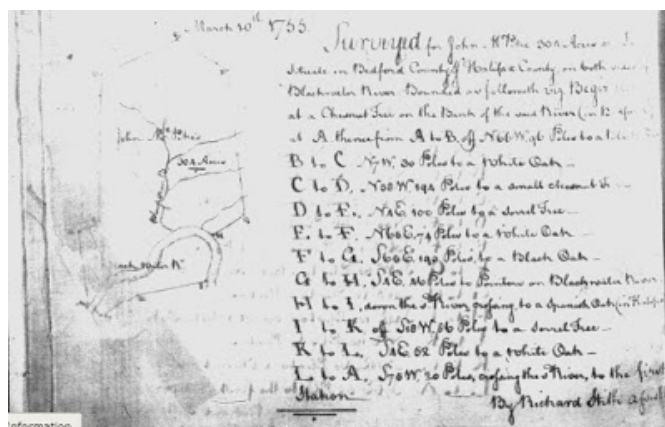
# Virginia Land Survey Books: Finding Invisible People

Surveyors records, 1744-1906	
Authors:	Augusta County (Virginia). Surveyor (Main Author)
Format:	Manuscript/Manuscript on Film
Language:	English
Publication:	Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1953
Physical:	2 microfilm reels ; 35 mm.

I've been sorting through the ever increasing number of digitized records now available at [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org) (all of the records with a camera by them are digitized). I recently discovered the Survey Books, sometimes referred to as Plat Maps Books. When I saw the catalog reference I initially thought "well I'll take a look", but I don't think it will tell me anything. These books aren't plat map books showing neighbors property. These show individual surveys for land grants. I was wanting to see the names of property line neighbors, so wasn't that excited about these books.

I could not view these Virginia survey books at home; some digitized films are viewable from anywhere and some not. Most of the Virginia records are not viewable everywhere, but only at an LDS Family History Center or Library. These survey books are only viewable at a Family History Center or Library. I found these in the catalog on a Saturday when my local FHC was closed. I headed over there Monday to take a look.

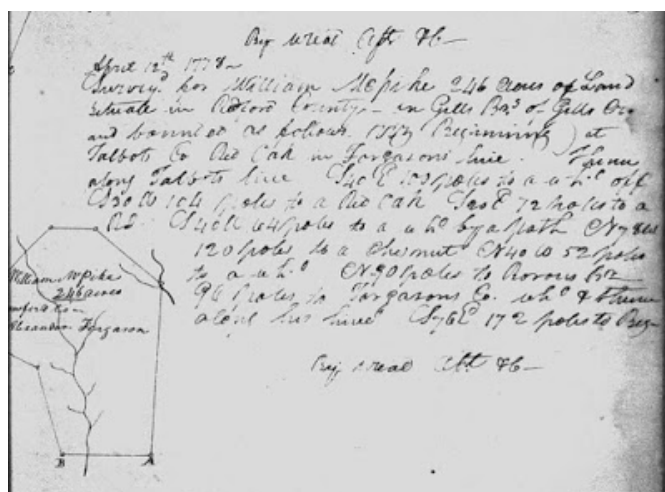
I checked Virginia Land Survey books associated with the counties my ancestors lived in. Two of the books were indexed, making my search easier. One book wasn't. My initial index search turned up nothing for my surnames. I then noticed that there were more books attached to each film digitized. Looking at the additional books I had a big breakthrough! I found a John McPike had a land survey dated 1755. I have been researching that exact area for around 18 years and never saw a John McPike on any records. Actually I've been searching the area for Wrays and Thurmans, ancestors of my great-grandfather William Forgey. I had no idea until very recently that my great-grandmother, Isis Browning, also had ancestors who once lived in the same area, namely Bedford County, Virginia (now Franklin County, VA). I had found a land grant for Isis Browning's great-grandparents, William and Obedience McPike, fairly recently, putting them in that area in 1780. The 1780 grant was for the same land described in John McPike's survey, 304 acres in Bedford County, Virginia on both sides of the Blackwater river. Since we assume William McPike was born about 1750 John McPike may have been his father? Now I have a new person to trace, and a much earlier timeframe for the McPikes in America. We had thought they had come to America around 1770 from Northern Ireland. Now we know they were here in 1755.



John McPike 1755 Land Survey Bedford County, Virginia (Now Franklin), both sides of the Blackwater River

The John McPike survey also clears something up. I was surprised that William McPike, who was living in Tennessee in 1779, would leave Tennessee then head to Virginia and buy a 304 acre land grant in 1780, soon after returning to Tennessee? I'm now thinking he returned and filed for the grant after the death of John. The land was probably pretty much played out by that time, so William returned to Tennessee.

I actually found a land survey for William McPike dated April 1778. He transferred this land, apparently soon after the survey, to Alexander Ferguson. He then appears to migrate to Tennessee where he files for a land grant in 1779.



William McPike 1778 Bedford County, Virginia

Now I know the importance of these survey books. They tell us who lived in an area, and give us an idea of where the land was located. They may be the only surviving record of a person. I know my family filed surveys which they never proceeded to get a grant for. Looking through the surveys you may find more people with the same surname that you never knew about. You may also find your ancestors in a county you never knew they were in. These surveys go back to colonial days, making them, sometimes, the only record source in some areas early on. The earliest survey books I've run across so far go back to 1729 in Caroline County, Virginia. I'm sure some books have been lost to fire etc., but many have survived giving us a better picture of who was living in an area in colonial and early American times, and information on migrations.

I've learned you never know what you might find in a record, never prejudge.

Head over to your nearest LDS Family History Center and take a look, if you haven't already? You can check their catalog for online offerings, before your trip over there, here:

<https://familysearch.org/catalog/search>

**Enter your county name, but don't include "county" in the search**  
**Search these family history centers: [Select Online from this menu](#)**

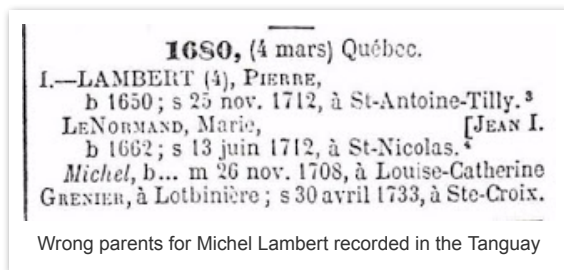


Posted by [Annette](#) at [1:17 PM](#)    No comments: 

Thursday, July 13, 2017

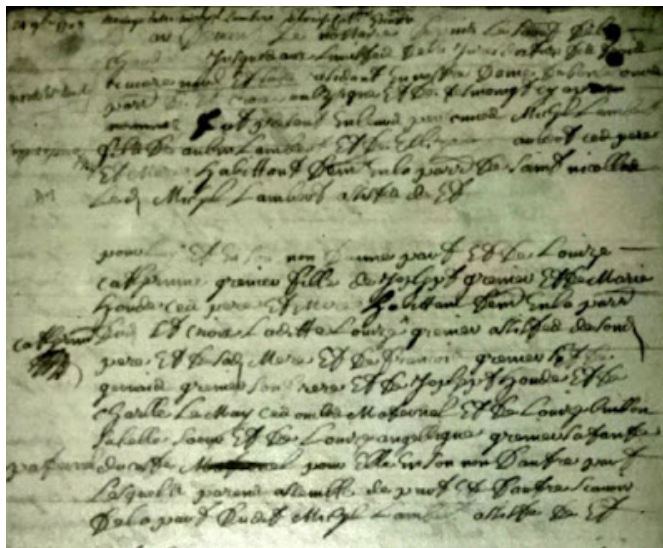
## French Canadian Marriage Contracts

I received two microfilms for French Canadian notarial records from the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, which fill in some gaps in the Catholic Church marriage records. Fr. Tanguay had not consulted these records. Without seeing a marriage contract for one of my ancestral couples he made a wrong inference regarding Michel Lambert's parents. The Catholic Church marriage record, dated 29 Nov 1708 Lotbiniere, Quebec, Canada, left out the names of the parents of Michel Lambert and Catherine Louise Grenier. The marriage contract does contain the names of Michel's parents. His parents are named as Aubin Lambert and Elizabeth Aubert. The contract is dated before the marriage on 24 Nov 1708 the marriage.



Michel Lambert had contracted a previous marriage. That contract had been nullified.





Correct parents for Michel Lambert appear on the marriage contract

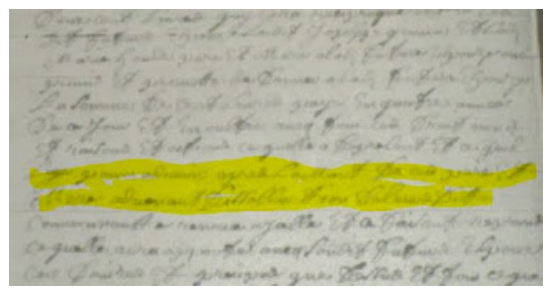
I found a French Canadian marriage contract description written by Suzanne Bolvin Sommerville, FCHSM member. The Contract would be based on the "Custom of Paris"  
[http://habitantheritage.org/yahoo\\_site\\_admin/assets/docs/Suzanne\\_MarriageContract.25164252.pdf](http://habitantheritage.org/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/Suzanne_MarriageContract.25164252.pdf)

The points she makes are as follows:

1. Marriage contracts were generally legal contracts drawn up by notaries. They were drawn up by them because there weren't any lawyers in Quebec.
2. Contracts in rural areas without notaries could be drawn up by priests or military officials.
3. The signing was part of a celebration by those in attendance.
4. The first part of the contract generally contained the names and ages of the couple marrying, parishes, and places of origin, current residence and professions. Parents names also appear on the contract above.
5. Next would be lists of names of those in attendance. The relationships of those in attendance would be given, which is very helpful information. Those in attendance were witnesses and counselors to the couple.
6. The future couple then promised to solemnize their marriage in the "Holy Mother Church."
7. They then outlined what part of the "Custom of Paris" they wanted included in the contract. This would outline how property would be owned by the couple, such as which property would be held in common.

My ancestors' marriage contract is difficult to read, and badly faded in sections. I can read the important relationship information however. Some contracts are more legible than others.

Here we see an example of how property of parents is being settled in this contract. It states what would happen after the death of parents with the inheritance.



The notarial records contain many types of legal documents, not just marriage contracts. If you know who the notary is in a particular area at a particular time you can search these records for your ancestors. The Family History Library microfilms are cataloged by the name of the notary. You can search for the name of the notary by keyword. Unfortunately the best way to search these records is to order these records on microfilm at your local LDS Family History Center. This won't be possible after **August 2017** when microfilm rental will no longer be available from the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. You can visit the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, after the rental program ends, and see these microfilms.

The Family History Library in Salt Lake City is digitizing their microfilm collection and making these records available online. It will be a few years before this process is complete. I'm hoping the notarial record microfilms end up online eventually. I don't expect to see them online anytime soon since they aren't a commonly used source. If and when they are available online I believe they will be easier to read. It will be easier to adjust the size of the print and lighten and darken the digital copy.

If you have details for a particular record you can request it by contacting the National Archives of Quebec. I received this contact information when I asked about possibly getting a copy through the Archives:

Frédéric Giuliano  
Archiviste-coordonnateur  
Direction des services aux usagers et aux partenaires  
Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec  
[frederic.giuliano@banq.qc.ca](mailto:frederic.giuliano@banq.qc.ca)

Posted by **Annette** at **1:33 PM** No comments: 

Sunday, July 9, 2017

## My First Visit Ellis Island





Me standing on the pedestal of the Statue Of Liberty on a hot humid day. Really increased my tan.

Last Saturday I arrived in New York City for the first time. On Monday I ferried over to Liberty Island to view the Statue of Liberty, and then on to Ellis Island. This was a highlight of my life. I had a euphoric feeling on the cruise out. Seeing the Statue of Liberty as my Great-Grandparents would have seen it was an extremely moving experience. I'll outline some of what I learned about the experience of immigrants processing through Ellis Island. Sadly, I don't have any stories regarding my ancestors trips through Ellis Island.

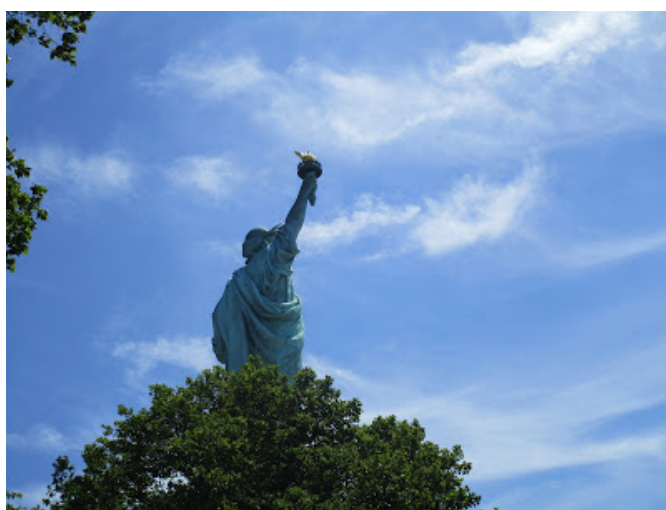
First of all here are a few pics I took going out:



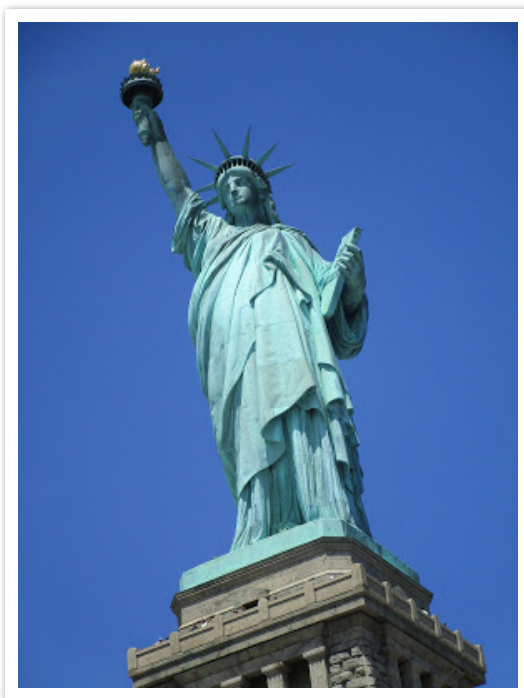




Liberty Island is beautiful! Great views of Manhattan too.







My great-great grandfather Christian Koppel and his son Franz were my first ancestors who came through Ellis Island. They originally came in 1895. Franz Koppel returned to Inzenhof at some point, and returned again to America on the same ship as his future wife Maria Kurta in 1898. Christian also returned to Inzenhof. Returning for another trip to Pennsylvania 1899.

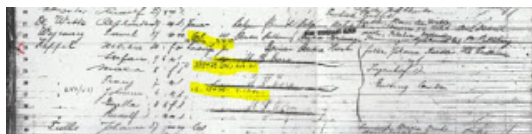
The original wooden building on Ellis Island burned down in 1897. When Christian and Franz Koppel arrived in 1895 they were processed there. When Maria and Franz came over in 1898 they actually processed at the temporary barge building in Battery Park, as was Christian in 1899.

If you traveled first or second class you did not have to pass through Ellis Island

In February 1900 Maria Kurta-Koppel's father, Johann Kurta, visited the family. The new brick building was not open yet, so he also was processed at Battery Park. It was not until December of that year that the new building was completed for processing. Apparently Johann Kurta and his daughter Maria (my great-grandmother) returned to Inzenhof together. She returned to her home, and husband, in Pennsylvania in 1901. She was not yet a citizen,

and traveled steerage. She would have come again through Ellis Island, this time through the current building .

When Maria Kurta-Kappel's husband relocated to Pittsburgh she again returned to Inzenhof. In 1905 she still isn't a citizen and again travels steerage, again she would process through Ellis island, and at that point joins her husband in Pittsburgh. This time she travels with her young daughter also named Maria.



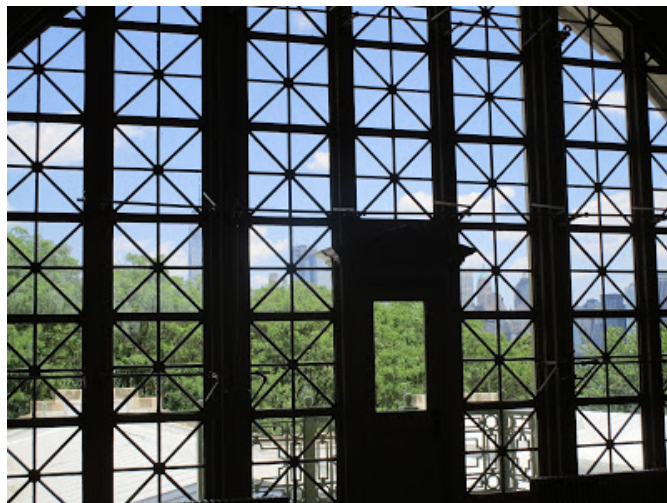
The strings of numbers I highlighted represent later document checks, such as when Maria became a citizen in 1939. Lookups were also performed for two children in the 1940's.

When Frank Kappel relocates for work to Chicago Maria takes all but one child back to Inzenhof for a final time. My grandfather Rudolph Kapple was born during this visit.

I'm not sure whether my Irish Grandmother Helen Mullen-Mason came through Ellis Island? I have not been able to find a passenger list for her anywhere. It's likely she did come through there. The 1897 fire destroyed many passenger lists, and the temporary location created problems with the records too. Her sister Bridget Mullen appears on a 1907 passenger list for the port of New York.

They would have disembarked from a ferry taking them to the island at the same place I disembarked.

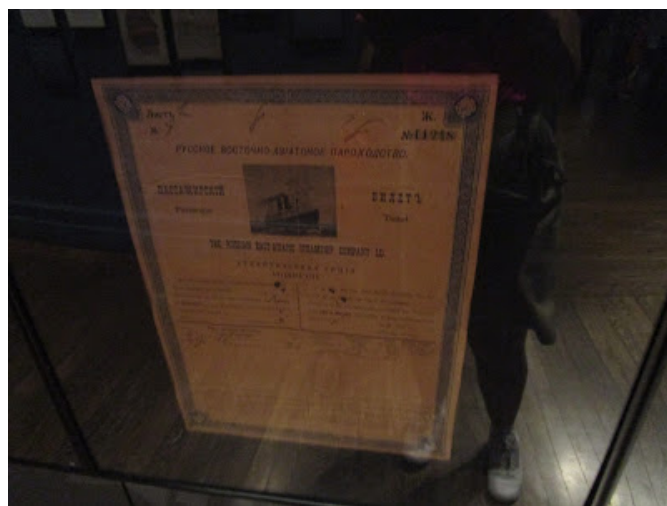




To get to Ellis Island and America immigrants would have to buy a ticket from a shipping agent. My ancestors would have had to also buy a train ticket from the Austro-Hungarian border area to either ports in Germany or Belgium.

The ship tickets were generally on large sheets of paper. I was thinking they are so much larger than the tickets printed at the airport, but if you print your ticket at home it is on an 8 1/2 by 11 inch piece of paper. Many of the ship tickets were much larger than 8 1/2 by 11 however. They were sometimes huge certificates. Not so easy to lose. The passengers had to pay for a round trip ticket in case they didn't pass the inspection at Ellis Island. Steerage tickets were inexpensive, the average cost of a ticket was \$30.

Immigrants would walk into the processing building loaded down with their belongings. They would receive a numbered tag for processing.



Ship ticket. It's really large

The first room the immigrants arrived in was the baggage room. They could check their bags, but many didn't because luggage was often lost or stolen. Sometimes immigrants had to pay unscrupulous private contractors large sums of money to get their luggage back.



The immigrants would have to climb stairs to enter the registry room where their processing would take place.





Registry Room were the procession was conducted. This room still contains some original benches.

The physical inspection would begin at the upstairs landing. The medical inspectors were waiting at the top. They would take note of anyone who had difficulty climbing the stairs. A more extensive physical examination would take place including an exam for the eye disease trachoma. A button hook was used to lift the eyelids for this exam. I would hate that. Hate anyone touching my eyes. An excellent hospital was built on the island in 1902. If someone had a curable disease they were treated at this hospital, and often admitted to the country after recovery. Hundreds of babies were born on the island, and 3000 people died there.



Hospital equipment





Uniformed inspectors would interview the immigrants regarding their plans, and means of support. Uniformed officials were intimidating to many immigrants who were escaping military service or had been subjected to government oppression in their homeland.

Most immigrants were admitted to the country. Those singled out for further questioning and, or, inspection would have an X mark or SI noted by the number on the passenger list. SI meant they were held for a special inquiry hearing. Other letter marks signified suspected illnesses, such as H for heart etc.. Most of these immigrants were eventually admitted.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

Whole group of people held. One had a special inquiry hearing as noted by SI

At one point IQ tests began to be administered. These tests involved piecing together a puzzle. Most immigrants passed. They were given several opportunities to pass.

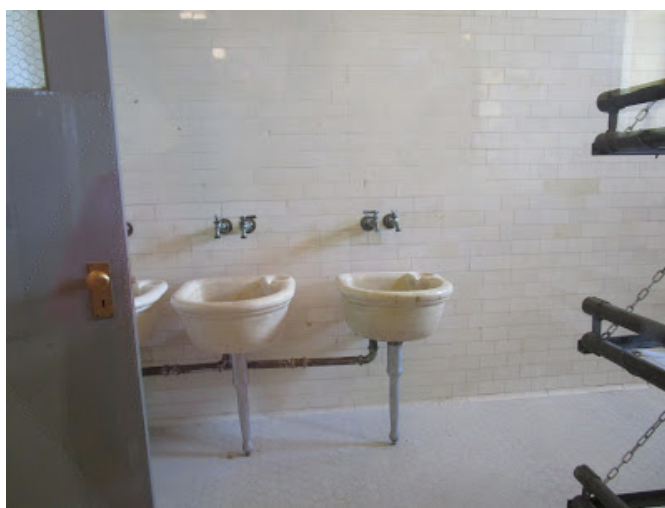
Translators at Ellis Island were often either immigrants, or from immigrant families. These translators sometimes assisted the immigrants by giving them the right answers to the inspection questions.

The inspectors kept office hours. If you arrived late in the day and couldn't complete inspection you would spend the night in dormitories located above the registry room.

Typical stay on Ellis Island was round 3 hours, although you could be there much longer depending on the number of immigrants, and your particular situation as far as detention. None of my family members were detained.



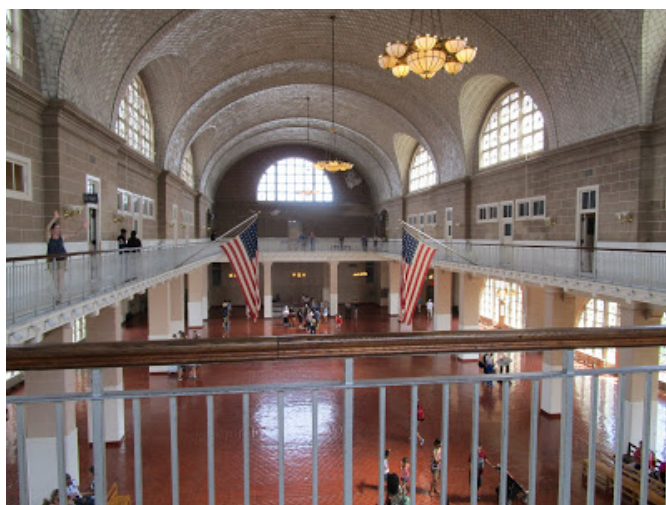
Men's dormitory bunks for overnight stays



## Men's bunks



Only one toilet for many people



Balcony with doors leading to dorms. Women's dorms right men left.

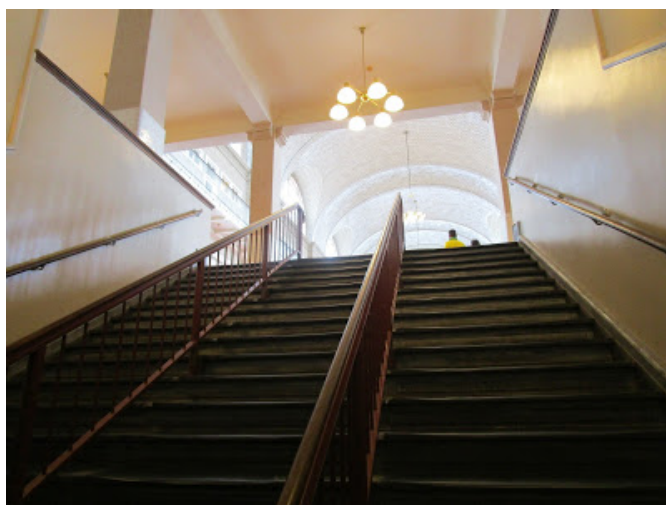


Women's dorm room

After completing processing you would be directed to the separation staircase, which



contained 3 aisles. One aisle lead to the New York City ferry, another lead to the train station for those heading away from New York City. Those who were detained or marked B to be sent back were sent down the center aisle of this staircase. Many being sent back or detained didn't know the significance of the separate aisles. They were marked with chalked marks on their clothing. Some immigrants were wise to these marks. Those marked for detainment or return sometimes wiped the chalk mark off and joined the crowds leaving the island. Not sure how many managed to subvert the process and make it to freedom?



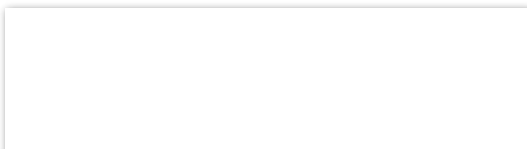
Three aisle separation staircase

My ancestors didn't stay in New York and therefore headed for the train station in New Jersey by ferry. The station, built in 1889, still stands but is abandoned. About 10.5 million immigrants entered the country through this station. Interesting there is a street named Houston in New York. This caused confusion with some immigrants wanting to go to this street being sent instead to trains heading for Houston, Texas.



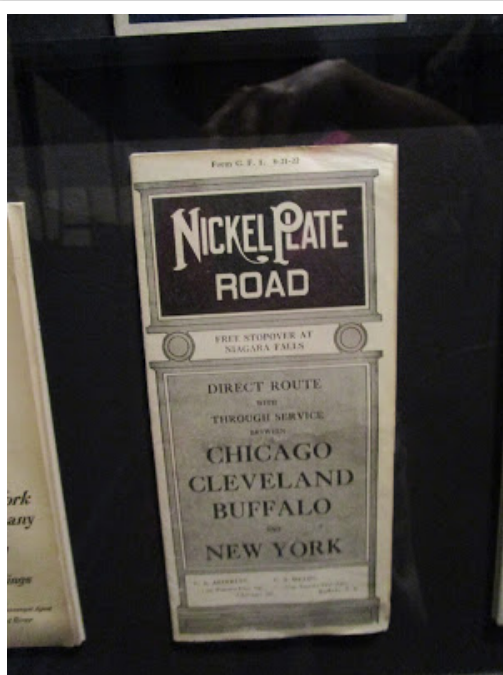
Railway station my ancestors would have left from in New Jersey

I saw some railroad tables for the trains my ancestors would have taken on display at Ellis Island. They would have taken the Lehigh Valley train to the Allentown area. Bridget Mullen and Maria Kappel would have taken the train to Chicago also.





Train time table Lehigh Valley



Railroad table Chicago

I loved my trip to Ellis Island. I could feel the presence of my ancestors like never before. I highly recommend visiting there.

Of course you don't have to go to Ellis Island to search the passenger lists in the room pictured below. You can search the Ellis Island passenger search on their [website](#).





The Freedom Tower elevator had a great video presentation on the way to the top. If you stop this video around the year your ancestor came you can see the New York they saw when they arrived in America.

### World Trade Center elevator video



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Posted by [Annette](#) at [3:19 PM](#) [1 comment:](#) 

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

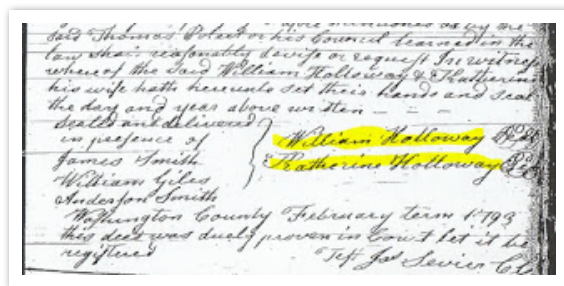
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Sunday, August 13, 2017

## Second Trip to East Tennessee Part 2

When I planned my trip to Jonesborough I didn't know about Jonesborough Days. I'm happy I was there for that celebration. It's a nice time to visit, which I just hit by accident. More food is available in town during the festival. Additional tours and entertainment are provided during this time, including a parade. I was able to do some research before the courthouse closed on Friday for the festival.

I found some Holloway deeds at the courthouse. I am trying to prove Obedience, William McPike's wife was a Holloway. Unfortunately none of the McPike's witnessed or are mentioned in any deeds with the Holloways. William Holloway was on the road building crew with William McPike, building a road to the courthouse, in 1783. I was hoping to get more information on this William Holloway because his wife was named as Katherine. Unfortunately I haven't found any information on this couple, at least yet. The Washington County, Tennessee Holloways' origins are unknown?



Three historical tours were offered during Jonesborough Days. There were tours covering the town's history, and train station. I'll cover the Cemetery tour in my third post.

**The 1886 Oak Hill School**



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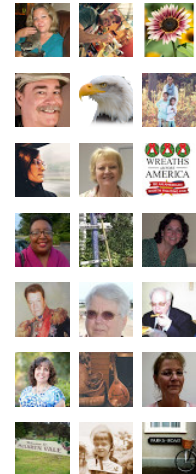


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### Jonesborough Town Tour

Jonesborough was selected as site for a courthouse because of its central location for the population of the area. Washington County was the first county west of the mountains. Jonesborough was founded in 1779. Washington County was established in 1777. Area residents petitioned for a courthouse because the nearest one was over the mountains in North Carolina. This area was part of North Carolina at that time. North Carolina stretched from the eastern seaboard to the Mississippi. Towns grew up around the early courthouses, where local residents handled legal matters like filing wills and deeds.

The town was the birthplace of the state of Franklin.

Andrew Jackson lived for a time in a log cabin now on Main Street.

The trains brought in wrought iron and plates of glass for the expanding Main Street businesses. Steps were constructed in front of Main Street stores to make mounting horses and carriages easier for customers.

May's was a fashionable ladies shop. You can still see the name plate in the door way.

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### About Me



**Annette**

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### Feedjit



One saloon was pointed out to us. It was closed after the city went dry.

The town contains many historic church buildings. All Protestant.

The civil war divided the town. One church Congregation split into two, because of a dispute over which side they supported. The Union supporters built a Northern style church to emphasize which side they supported. The Northern style church still stands out because of its dark gothic brick construction.



The town was a center for the abolitionist movement. The town still seems progressive.

The town is now a center for storytelling. A large storytelling festival takes place every year.



Clapboards cover an old log house

**The Chester Inn was built in 1797 and catered to stagecoach traffic. In**



early days their guests would have been mainly men, traveling for business. Women and families didn't travel often.

The Inn was restored based with furnishings, and recreated wallpaper from the 19th Century.







The 1906 Chuckey Train Station was moved to Jonesborough in order to restore and preserve it. It was getting ready to open to the public when I was there in late June/early July.

#### Railroad Tour

Tennessee was a late comer to train transportation. Johnson City's reason for being was as a railroad hub. Jonesborough had been a gateway to the west before the railway. Travelers west waited, sometimes many months, for caravans west to form. Jonesborough attracted merchants innkeepers, etc., catering to westward travel before railways. It was a thriving stagecoach stop with a large stagecoach inn built in the 1797 and still there, namely the Chester Inn.

The prosperous merchants of Jonesborough were responsible for adding the Jonesborough connecting train line. They sensed the town would be bypassed without it.

When the train arrived in the 1850's it increased the wealth of the 1



percent living in town. Farmers and travelers did benefit from the railroad too, but the merchants and railroad investors did reap the largest benefits. The town required that the train to make at least one stop a day in town. The trains actually made many more stops as the town became a popular destination. The train brought the building materials for the mansions and stores in town. The town always prided itself on furnishing luxury goods to the frontier area.

The town actually provided more transportation options in Victorian days. Livery stables rented horses and carriages. You can't rent a car there now, and there is no public transportation. Amtrak may offer service in the future?

Freight trains still travel on the old line. They came through around midnight and 3 am when I checked the time. I like the sound of trains so I'm not complaining.









**Andrew Jackson lodged for a short time in the 1788 Christopher Taylor log house.(below)**







One of the earliest paintings of Jonesborough hangs in the Chester Inn Museum.

[Watercolor by Rebecca Chester 1810.](#)









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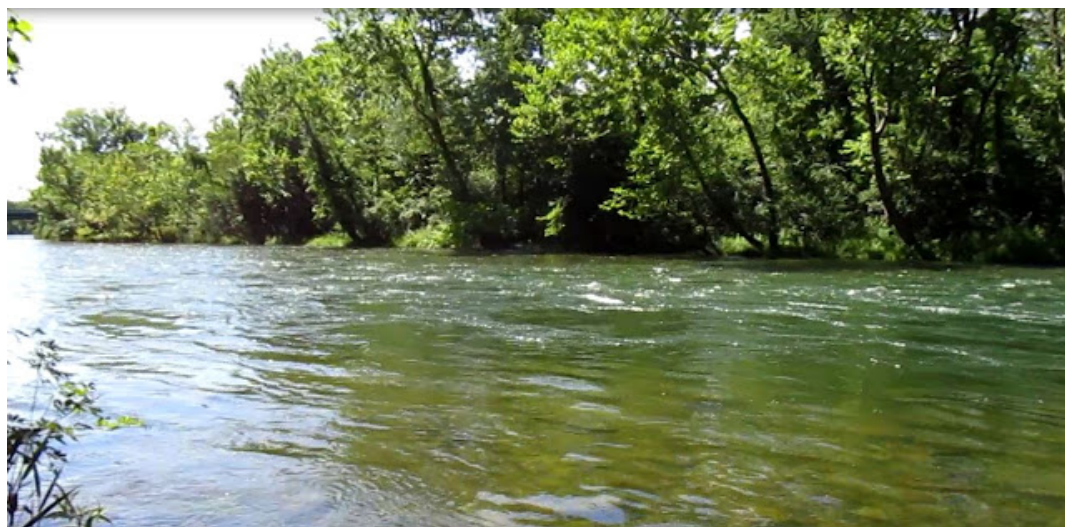
Posted by [Annette](#) at [9:01 AM](#)

No comments:



Thursday, August 10, 2017

## My Second Visit to Eastern Tennessee Part 1



I made a second visit to East Tennessee in June of this year. I stayed in Jonesborough. When I took a bus tour of the area as a part of the "Tennessee First Families Reunion" we went through Jonesborough, but didn't stop. I thought that town was so cute I wanted to spend more time there. I also had ancestors who lived in that area, and wanted to do some research there.





I flew into Jonesborough from Charlotte, North Carolina. I actually live in California, but found it was cheaper to fly to North Carolina and backtrack to the Tri-Cities Airport near Jonesborough. I was a little skeptical of the plane, which had outboard propellers. Once I was airborne I realized it wasn't much different than any other plane. The view flying over the mountains was beautiful! The endless chain of beautiful green mountains was dream like. The ride to the Inn I was staying at was also very scenic too.



Some Pics of the town of Joneborough











I stayed at the historical Eureka Inn (the serve the largest, and best breakfasts I've ever had) . My room was the Laura room dating back to when the hotel was built in 1797. Jonesborough was sited on a historic stage coach route, and stopping off point for the journey west. "The Oldest Town" in Tennessee it was the capital of the state of Franklin.





My 1797 room

My ancestors William McPike born about 1750, and his wife Obedience born about 1755 (maiden name said to be Holloway) were early settlers in Washington County, Tennessee. They originally settled in Carter's Valley on Puncheon Creek in the 1770's. He transferred his land grant soon after receiving it. He returned to Virginia briefly, maybe due to his father's death? When the family returned to Tennessee in the early 1780's they settled in the Fall Branch area. of Washington County, Tennessee. Fall Branch borders the counties of Greene, Sullivan. and Hawkins. It appears sometimes William McPike was considered to be a resident of Greene, and other times a resident of Washington County for tax purposes.

I'm grateful to the staff of the Washington County Archives for pinpointing the Fall Branch area as the area my ancestors lived. The archives recently opened to the public in a renovated 1915 bank building in the town of Jonesborough. You can search what is available at that location here: <https://wctnarchives.org/record-groups/>

Many old churches line Main Street. Their steeples, and the clock tower of the courthouse, are the most prominent buildings you see as you enter Jonesborough. Many of the churches and other buildings date to before the Civil War.



Courthouse

My ancestor William McPike worked on a road from his home on the northern county border, to the courthouse in 1783. The original courthouse is long gone, but an early 20th century courthouse now stands on the same site.

And that a Road be laid off the most  
 good & best way from this first House to the  
 County line, while the same may intersect the  
 Road leading from Greene's House & that  
 The Robinsons, George Olanjel, Isaac Hill, Wm. Miller  
 Wm. Holloway, Loo. Hylth, Saml. Kassis, John English  
 Jno. Woodcock, Saml. Reed, Jon. Blair, Jany. Clark  
 Chris. Choate, James Choate, Wm. McSpiken, John  
 Road & Wm. Hill Lay off the same.

A side trip with my cousin Kenneth Edmondson was also very scenic. We went through Johnson City (a city owing its existence to the railroad) and Elizabethton. The Doe river covered bridge in Elizabethton is really picturesque. It was built in 1882.



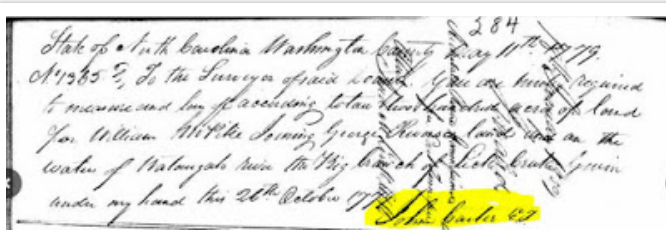


Visiting the Carter Mansion was another highlight of our side trip. The mansion was built between 1775 and 1780 by John Carter, a prominent early settler of the area. This house is still 90% original. Many of the glass window panes are also original, with their wavy thick glass.

John Carter was an entry taker for land entered in East Tennessee, then North Carolina. He signed William McPike's land survey. It was so exciting standing in the room where my ancestor's document was signed!



The desk where William McPike's survey was signed in 1779 by John Carter















It was so interesting seeing this slab, or brick, of tea. This is the way tea was shipped to early America, I never knew that. The tea thrown off the ships during the Boston tea party would have looked like this.



Heading back to Jonesborough we passed this beautiful farm.



Some more photos from the town.







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Posted by [Annette](#) at [3:17 PM](#)    [1 comment:](#)    

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

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Sunday, October 29, 2017

## Resolving A Brickwall with Maps/ Why DNA Segment Data is Important



### Resolving A Brickwall with Maps

Last week I blogged about my efforts to identify the family of Sarah Campbell-Wray b. about 1812 in Tennessee, according to one of her daughter's Polly Thurman Wray-Hall. Sarah Campbell married Anderson Wray in Jackson County, Indiana in 1833. There were no Campbells living around Anderson and Sarah, or least not within 20 or more miles.

This week I did page by page research in court orders and probate records, but no additional Campbells have surfaced. So far James T. Campbell still seems the best candidate to be a relative of Sarah Campbell. He is a possible brother or cousin, based on his age on the Census, if he is the same person listed on the 1840 US Census for Indiana? I first discovered he lived near some of my ancestors in Jackson County, IN a week ago. This James did live within 10 miles of Sarah Campbell's mother-in-law. Sarah's husband Anderson Wray's Uncle, William Harrison, purchased land from James T. Campbell.

I mapped the land grants for the township, range, and section using the [BLM search](#) for James T. Campbell, and neighbors. From the landing page clicking on related documents I was able to find descriptions of land purchased by neighbors living in and around township 5, where James T. Campbell lived.



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Patent Details | Patent Image | **Related Documents**

**Names On Document**  
 CAMPBELL, JAMES T

**Miscellaneous Information**  
 Land Office: Jeffersonville  
 US Reservations: No  
 Mineral Reservations: No  
 Tribe: ---  
 Militia: ---  
 State In Favor Of: ---  
 Authority: April 24, 1820: Sale-Cash Entry (1 Stat. 566)  
 General Remarks: ---

**Document Numbers** | **Survey Information**

Image	Accession	Item(s)	Date	Doc.#	State	Division	Trwp	Range	Allegiance	Sec. #	County
	82425_136	ALLEN, JAMES	8/15/1838	11867	IN	2nd PM	800N - 060E	SE1/4NE1/4	24	Jackson	
	82426_133	BALL, TOULVER	8/15/1838	10815	IN	2nd PM	800N - 060E	NE1/4NE1/4	24	Jackson	
	82428_233	CAMPBELL, JAMES T	8/1/1838	10732	IN	2nd PM	800N - 060E	SW1/4NE1/4	24	Jackson	
	82428_452	CAMPBELL, SARAH	4/10/1840	20505	IN	2nd PM	800N - 060E	SW1/4NE1/4	24	Jackson	
	82428_339	FORGEY, ANDREW	8/15/1838	11429	IN	2nd PM	800N - 060E	SW1/4NE1/4	24	Jackson	
	82428_350	FORGEY, HUGH	5/10/1840	20814	IN	2nd PM	800N - 060E	NE1/4SW1/4	24	Jackson	
	82428_395	HENDERSON, WILLIAM	4/10/1837	1289	IN	2nd PM	800N - 060E	SW1/4NE1/4	24	Jackson	
	82428_453	HENDERSON, WILLIAM	8/1/1838	10421	IN	2nd PM	800N - 060E	NE1/4SW1/4	24	Jackson	
	82428_449	HOLSTON, SCHW E	8/10/1838	10187	IN	2nd PM	800N - 060E	SE1/4SW1/4	24	Jackson	
	82428_513	HOLSTON, LEONARD	1/1/1838	0	IN	2nd PM	800N - 060E	SE1/4	24	Jackson	
	82428_450	MARTIN, WILLIAM	4/10/1840	20453	IN	2nd PM	800N - 060E	SE1/4SW1/4	24	Jackson	
	82428_459	WRAK, VILLOROUS	8/10/1837	8836	IN	2nd PM	800N - 060E	SW1/4NE1/4	24	Jackson	

Enter Township and Range. Optionally enter Section. < BLM data. Hint: pause for a moment after choosing ea data to be loaded into the drop-down boxes.

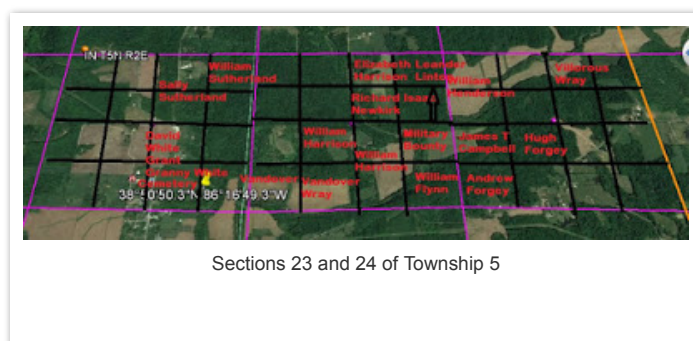
State: (any) ▼  
 Principal Meridian: First ▼  
 Township: 001 N ▼  
 Range: 001 E ▼  
 Section: (optional) ▼

Free. User account is not needed.

If you want to see the surround the "Fly To" button, come back a Google Earth" button. Free. User

I paid \$5 to map all of these land purchases at [Earthpoint](#), which produces a map at [Google Earth Pro](#). Clicking on the purple dot displays the section number. Dividing the sections into 16 squares with a drawing tool allowed me to add the names using the directions, NW of NE quarter for instance.

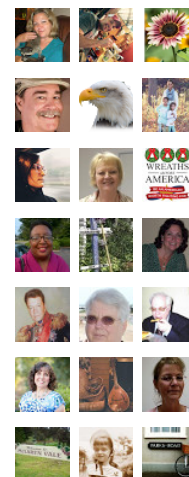
Looking the map, below, it does prove James T. Campbell was a neighbor of several Wray family relatives. Villorous Wray, Sarah's brother-in-law owned land in township 5 also. The land was indeed close to where Sarah Campbell's mother-in-law was buried, at the yellow pinpoint on the map. Several other Wray and Forgey family in-laws also lived in the same area. The interrelated web of relationships proves that individuals usually married neighbors during this time period. The more distant Campbell families are less likely to have been related to Sarah.



### Why DNA Segment Data is Important

I would like to resolve the Sarah Campbell b. 1812 Tennessee brickwall with DNA. 5 years after first taking an autosomal DNA test, DNA hasn't resolved this particular brickwall. I've

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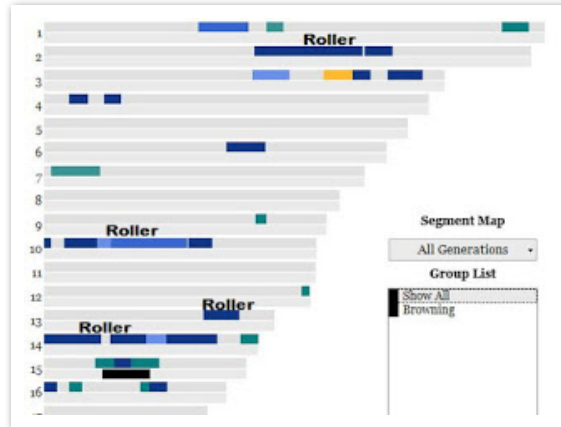
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tested with all three major companies. **Family Tree DNA** does provide segment data, but I see no matches who are good candidates to be distant cousins through Campbell. Same with **23andMe**. 23andMe lacks tree information and most testers have no surnames posted. There could be a good match at 23andMe, but I would never be able to identify it without surname information.

**AncestryDNA** has a possible Campbell related match? This match is a close match of my mother. This match shares 43 cM's on 3 segments. She doesn't match through a Campbell family in Indiana, but does relate to one in Tennessee. Unfortunately one of her shared matches relates through another line of our family. Only one out of a dozen, however, which could be a coincidence? Roller is the line shared by one of her matches. I have a good DNA map for the surname Roller. If I could see the segments we share with the Campbell match I, most likely, could confirm or rule out a relationship based on Roller.



If this match didn't share segments with known Roller matches I could go through matches at Family Tree DNA, 23andMe, and GEDmatch looking for matches on the same segments we share only with this Campbell match. Since my grandmother on that line was Nicaraguan it would be easy to establish whether a match was likely a Campbell and I could contact that match. Even if they had little information I could establish whether they, or their ancestors, lived in Tennessee or Indiana.

Without the segment info there is no way for me to work with this high quality Campbell match at **AncestryDNA**. I've contacted them, but haven't received an answer. I've contacted them twice in the past 3 years. If AncestryDNA would offer an opt in segment sharing option that could help me, and many others solve some brickwalls. 23andMe's opt in segment sharing is fabulous! I haven't bought an AncestryDNA kit in years. I would consider buying more if they had a segment sharing option. If our Campbell match had decided to opt in when she first tested I might have been able to make some progress using DNA for this match?

AncestryDNA may hold the key to at least identifying a potential place in Tennessee where Sarah Campbell's family originated, and a possible shared Campbell ancestor. It could also provide me with more matches on the same segment related to us through our Indiana family.

I will continue to look for potential Campbell related cousins at these DNA companies. Hopefully a match with an Indiana Campbell family will surface.

Posted by **Annette** at **10:18 AM** 6 comments:

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## About Me



**Annette**

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## Feedjit

## Sarah Campbell-Wray: Searching A Place For Everyone Who Shares A Surname



My ancestor Elizabeth Wray-Forgey she was the Daughter of Sarah Campbell-Wray

I've hit a brickwall with my ancestor Sarah Campbell-Wray of Jackson County, Indiana. Researching women is challenging because they were named in few records. My male ancestors names can be found in deed records. When buying land for the family home or farm only the male head of household's name appeared on the deed. Women's names didn't appear on census records until 1850, unless the woman was the head of the household because she was widowed, for instance. My ancestor Sarah Campbell-Wray died in 1847 as a wife and mother, at age of 37. Her early death and the young ages of her children has lead to a brickwall regarding her origins, and the names of her parents. On top of this there were only two identified Campbell males contemporary with her recorded on censuses for Jackson County, Indiana. These men weren't old enough to be her father.

Since there wasn't a Campbell family in Indiana that Sarah Campbell-Wray fitted into I searched neighboring counties. I thought I found her family in Lawrence County, Indiana. William and Mary Gilles did have a daughter named Sarah and they were old enough to be her parents. Unfortunately their daughter Sarah wasn't my Sarah. She married a Dougherty the same year my Sarah married Anderson Wray. This led me to return to Jackson County, Indiana records to see if there were Campbells missed by the censuses.

A major set of records containing women's names in the 19th century, and before, are marriage records. Indiana marriage records are online at Ancestry and [Family Search](#). There is a quick index search at the [Indiana State Library site](#). This index is perfect for my search. It's an index to marriages to 1850. To find every Campbell who married you have to enter the surname in the spouses search. The first surname search field only brings up husbands names. Here we see more names than those represented on the early censuses. Possible siblings of Sarah? I looked up information on those listed, but have not been able to find a connection?

Indiana State Library  
Genealogy Database:  
Marriages through 1850

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Page 1 of 1 Pages. Total number of records = 8

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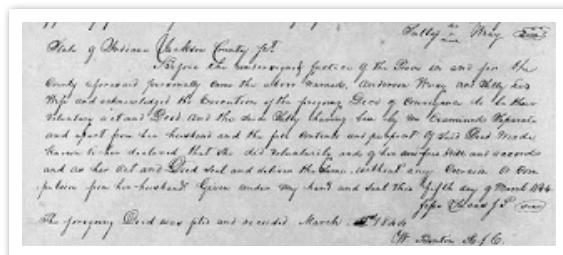
Last Name	First Name	Surname Last Name	Surname First Name	County	Date
<a href="#">HUNTER</a>	CAROLINE	CAMPBELL	HALAAM	Jackson	2-11-1838
<a href="#">HARRIS</a>	AMELIA HARRIS	CAMPBELL	EDWARD	Jackson	1-7-1830
<a href="#">HARRIS</a>	Anderson	Campbell	Sarah	Jackson	11-15-1832
<a href="#">HARRIS</a>	Anderson	Campbell	Sarah	Jackson	11-15-1832
<a href="#">HARRIS</a>	ANDERSON	CAMPBELL	SARAH	Jackson	11-15-1832
<a href="#">HARRIS</a>	ANDERSON	CAMPBELL	SARAH	Jackson	11-15-1832
<a href="#">HARRIS</a>	ANN	CAMPBELL	WILLIAM	Jackson	2-6-1842
<a href="#">HARRIS</a>	ANN	CAMPBELL	WILLIAM	Jackson	2-6-1842

Probate records are another source listing many names not appearing on early census records. This record collection hasn't produced any results regarding Sarah Campbell.

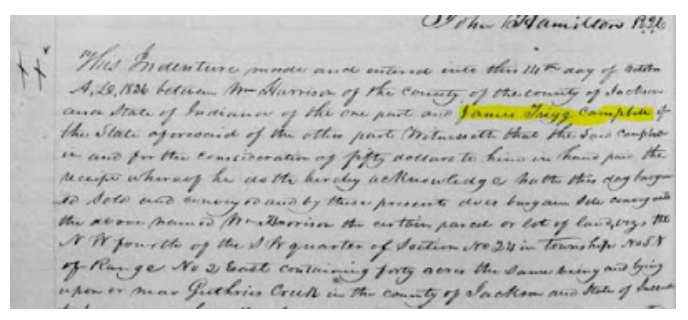
Tax records are another source for names between censuses, but not available for the time period I need online.

Another source containing names missed in the censuses, or who lived in the area between censuses, is deeds. The Family Search microfilm digitizing project has completed digitizing the deed films for Jackson County, Indiana. Unfortunately you have to view the online digitized deed books at a Family History Center or Family History Library to unlock them (there is a little lock beside records that need to be viewed at an FHC or FHL, or you just need to sign in to see). These records are not indexed yet, but many books contain indexes, and there is often also a general index that has been digitized. Oddly the general indexes for Jackson County deeds are at the bottom of the list of digitized films, so some people might miss them.

Indiana sales deeds include the wives names because the wife has a dower interest her husband's property, and therefore had to sign the deed. When land was sold wives were interviewed, as Sarah Campbell-Wray was, to insure she wasn't coerced into signing the deed by her husband.



Looking through the Jackson County Deeds I did find several Campbell men who didn't appear on any of the other records. These men included a James T. Campbell, a Joseph B. Campbell, and a William P. Campbell. Of these 3 men one stood out. James T. Campbell had a land transaction with Sarah's husband, Anderson Wray's, Uncle William Harrison. The fact a relative was named with a Campbell is a breakthrough,



I have not been able to find anything stating James T. Campbell is related to Sarah. The deed I found states his full name is James Trigg Campbell. I searched censuses looking for him. I could not find him on the censuses for Jackson County. I did find a James T. Campbell in neighboring Washington County. This James T. Campbell would be too young to be my Sarah's father, but in the right age range to be her brother. He was born in Tennessee in about 1809. He has a Charlotte Campbell in his household in 1850. My Sarah also has a daughter named Charlotte. Tennessee matches the birthplace for my ancestor Sarah according to her daughter Polly T. Wray-Hall. My ancestor Elizabeth Wray-Forgey's 1880 Census entry gives Indiana as the birthplace for her parents which isn't correct.

Polly Thurman Wray-Hall, Sarah's daughter, gave Tennessee as her mother's birthplace on the 1900, 1910, and 1920 censuses. On the 1880 her mother's birth location was given as Virginia. Her husband may have provided that information? She was a widow and most likely provided the information on the later censuses.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

James T. Campbell is a good candidate for a brother or possible cousin of Sarah Campbell-Wray. Some of the information for him is hard to reconcile and might suggest he came to Indiana from Tennessee later than Sarah? The Charlotte in his household was born in Tennessee in the late 1830's and my Sarah married in Indiana in 1833. This Charlotte is said to be James T.'s sister in the 1880 Census. There is a 30 year age gap between them. Not sure if that relationship is a correct? An Elizabeth Campbell appears to be a relation living close to James T. and family in 1850. She has a 4 year old daughter born in Tennessee in 1846. It appears relatives of James joined him in Indiana many years after he settled there according to later censuses.





Description of the nature of the owner's business.	The Name of every Person whose usual place of abode on the last day of June, 1850, was in this family.			DESCRIPTED.			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each White Person over 15 years of age.	Value of Real Estate owned.	Place or Name. Mining the State, Territory, or Country.			
	Age.	Sex.	Color, or Race.	1	2	3				4	5	6
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
	Minnie Campbell			14	F							2000
	John "			19	M							

This Indenture, made and entered into  
this day of October, A.D. 1790 and Eighth of November (an  
hundredth year, by and between William and Thomas Hall agents  
his wife of Washington County, and State of Indiana,  
of the one parts, and Elizabeth Campbell, of the County  
and State aforesaid, of the other party, living both - that the  
said William and Thomas Hall agents his wife for and in con-  
sideration of the sum of One hundred and fifty dollars  
delivered to the said Elizabeth Campbell in hand paid the receipt

When trying to find parents of ancestors it is important to find everyone carrying their surnames living in the same area. Researching all of those with the same name for clues. Relying on census records alone causes us to miss everyone in an area between censuses, as I've discovered.

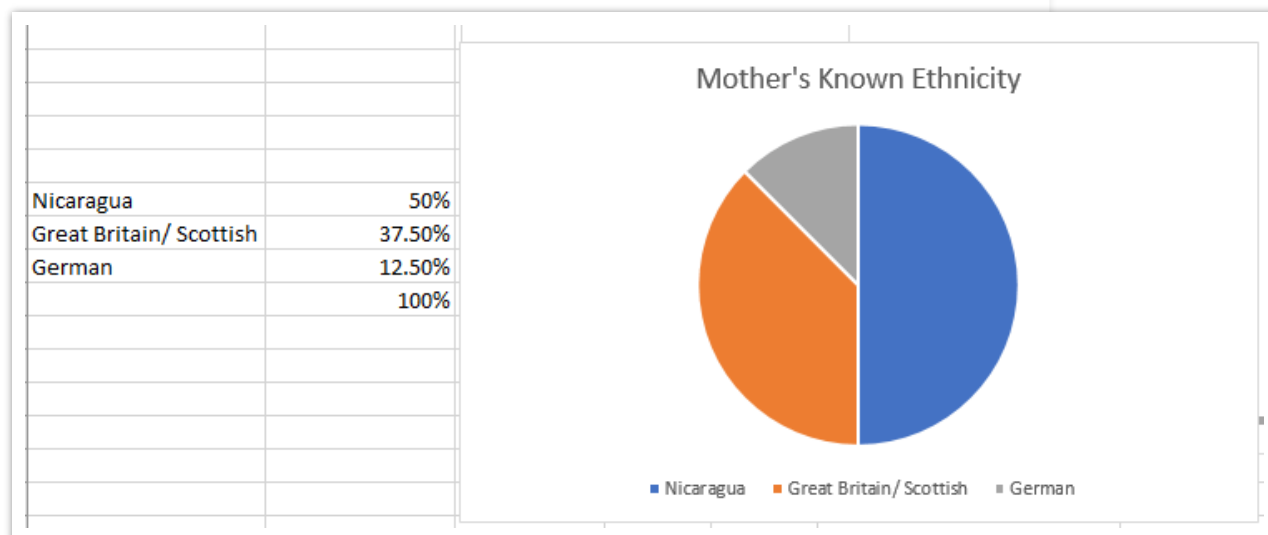
Wednesday, September 13, 2017

## Comparing Autosomal DNA Ethnicity Results

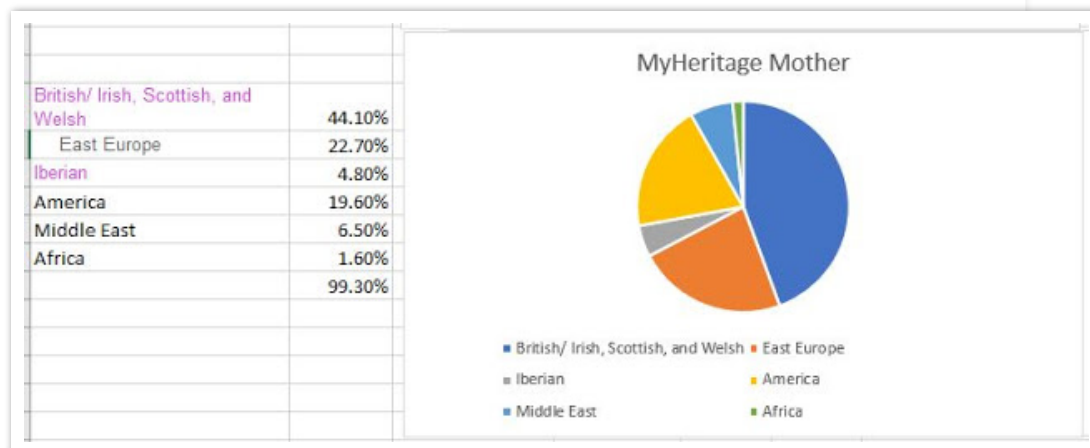
I've just started reviewing our **MyHeritage DNA** ethnicity results. I decided to compare the results again between all of the companies, plus add the new results from MyHeritage. My mother Edna Forgey-Kapple tested with **23andMe**, **Family Tree DNA**, **AncestryDNA**, and her raw data was uploaded to MyHeritage.

Examining my mother's known ethnic heritage I was able to breakdown her father Charles Forgey's ethnicity. He was mainly Scottish and German. He may also have had some English ancestry, but I have not been able to make that connection.

I was not able to breakdown her mother Graciela Del Castillo's ethnicity. Nicaraguans have a high percentage of Iberian and Native American ancestry, with a smaller percentage of African. It's been difficult for me to trace our family back in Nicaragua beyond the late 1700's. The surnames I have so far are all Spanish.



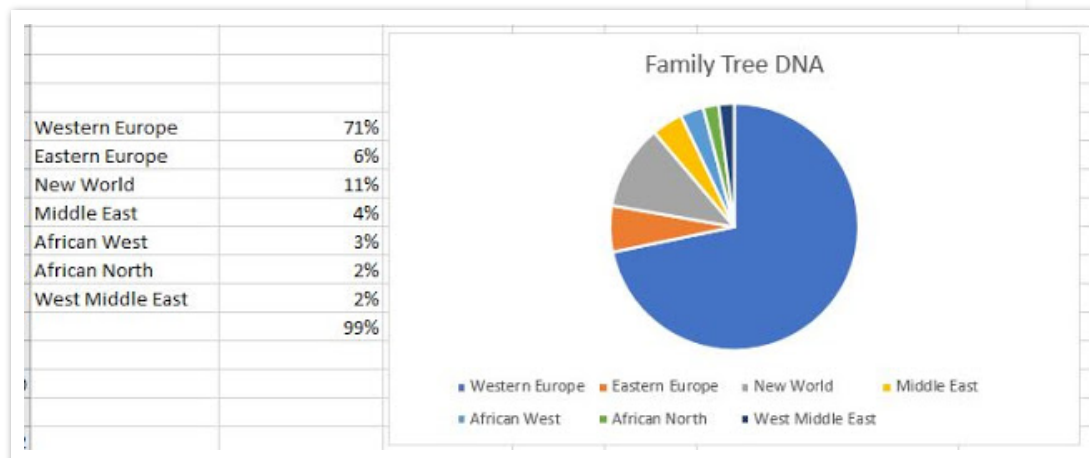
Here are the percentages from MyHeritage DNA



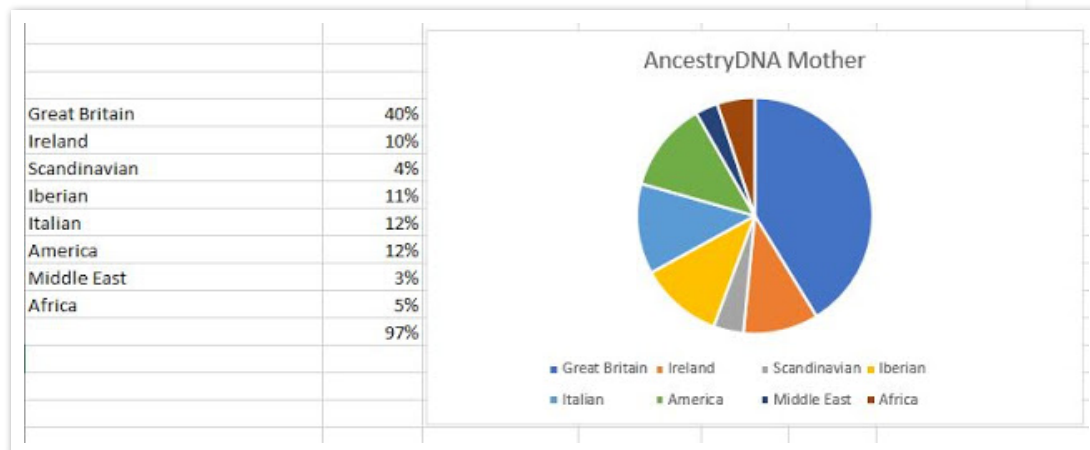
44.10% British/ Irish/ Scottish seems to be on the high side since my mother also has a possible 12% German ethnicity on her father's side? It's possible she received more of the British/Scottish DNA from ancestors? We inherit differing amounts of DNA from our ancestors, the amount shared with distant ancestors is small, and sometimes can't be detected at all. My mother does match many German line cousins on her Roller line. Not as many on her German Urmeys line, which may be the reason for the high British number? Iberian seems too low considering my mother's Spanish surnamed ancestors such as Del

Castillo, Garcia, and Granizo. My mother has many Nicaraguan matches with Spanish surnames also. The Native American result of 19% is the highest from all of the companies, and I believe it's too high.

The East European number is way too high. I suppose this covers Germany also? Although most of it is said to be Balkan. The Balkan ancestry would appear to be completely wrong?

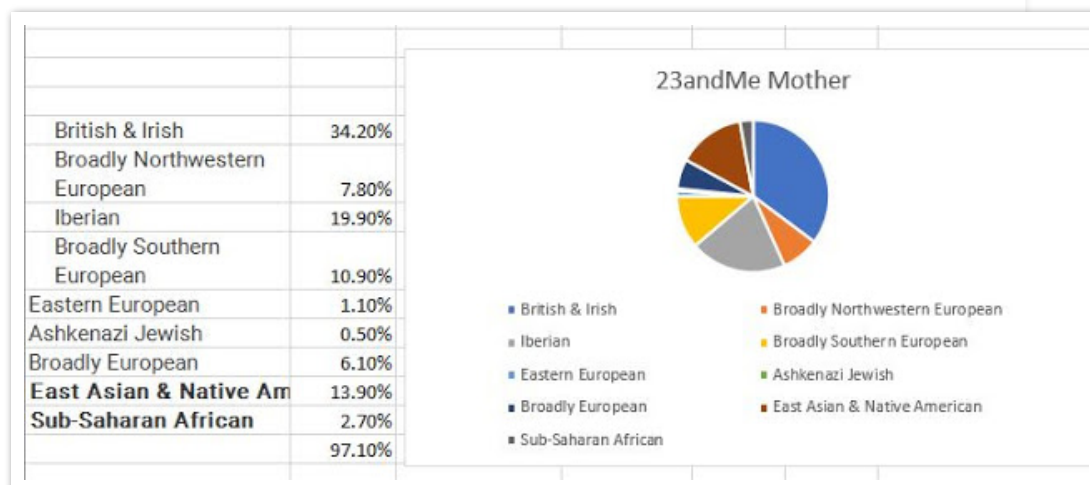


Family Tree DNA misses all of my mother's British/Scottish ancestry. Instead they assign most of her European DNA to Western Europe? According to their map Western Europe covers continental Europe only. It does cover Germany, but my mom isn't that German. This is a big miss. I would guess the 6% Eastern Europe is German too? Way too much continental European. The Native American result could be correct? They completely miss my mother's Southern European. This result doesn't reflect her ethnic heritage well at all.



Ancestry DNA gives my mother 40% Great Britain and 10% Ireland. This 50% would have to be assigned to her father, leaving no room for German. There really isn't any room anywhere in these results for her German ethnicity. Like I said before she does have many German related matches, so she evidently did inherit that DNA. Not sure if the Scandinavian relates to the German? My mother has no known Scandinavian ancestry. If she did it would be too far back to show up as 4%.

I give Ancestry DNA credit for finding Iberian DNA. However the Italian is likely wrong. She doesn't have a high percentage of Italian matches either. She does have a high percentage of Nicaraguan matches with Spanish surnames. Our known Nicaraguan surnames are all Spanish. My grandfather was positively not Italian.



Looking at the 23andMe result the British & Irish seems low? I would think this would be at least 38%? Although it's possible my mother may have received a higher percentage of DNA from her German ancestors? There is a 7.80% Broadly Northwestern European number, which could reflect either German or British ancestry, or a little of both? There is also a Broadly European result of 6.10%, which could trace to anywhere? There is also an unassigned amount of DNA. The 34% is close enough for me however.

I'm very happy with the high Iberian percentage number here. It makes more sense than the results from the other companies, considering her Spanish family surnames, and her many matches with Spanish surnames. There is an unassigned Southern European 10%. Could that be Italian? I doubt it. It may reflect ancient shared Southern European ethnicity that came down through the generations?

No Scandinavian in these results also makes sense.

### Which results best reflect my mother's heritage?

23andMe's results best reflect her heritage. I have a caveat to this.

23andMe phases results if at least one parent and child tests with them.

Both the parent and child's results change due to phasing. My mother and I both tested, and these results are phased. The unphased ethnicity results look a lot like the other companies, but I would say are still slightly better.

You can adjust the results at both 23andMe, and AncestryDNA. 23andMe allows you to adjust based on confidence level. AncestryDNA allows you to adjust based on a possible percentage range. These adjustments aren't helpful for those who don't already know their ethnicity.

The take away for me is phasing results with parents and children improves the accuracy of ethnicity results.



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Posted by [Annette](#) at [5:52 PM](#) 3 comments: 

Thursday, August 24, 2017

## Trip to Tennessee Part 3: Old Jonesborough Cemetery



Cemeteries are such moving places. Even though none of my direct ancestors are buried in Jonesborough, Tennessee. I still found visiting the old Jonesborough Cemetery very moving, and educational at the same time. I took a tour of the cemetery with local guide Gordon Edwards who is helping to restore the cemetery, and also studying the history of the people buried there. He is a font of information about the cemetery and the people buried there. I had met him the day before in the County courthouse. He assisted me in printing my ancestors' deeds. It was raining the day of the tour, which didn't dissuade me, and a local resident from taking the tour anyway. It did stop raining soon after the tour started, but was raining heavily when we started out.



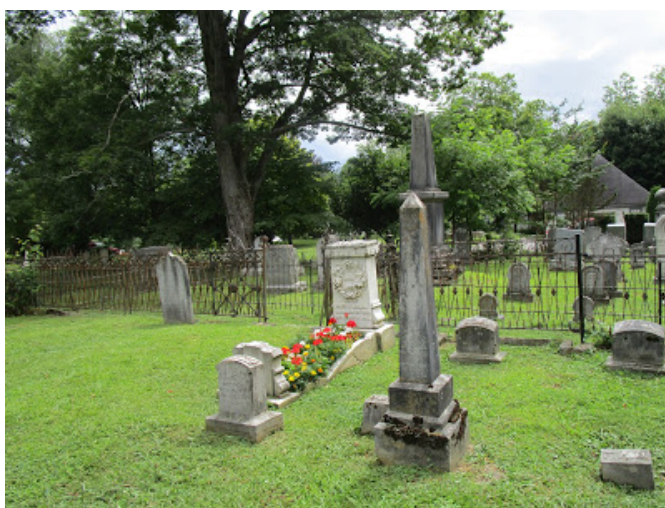
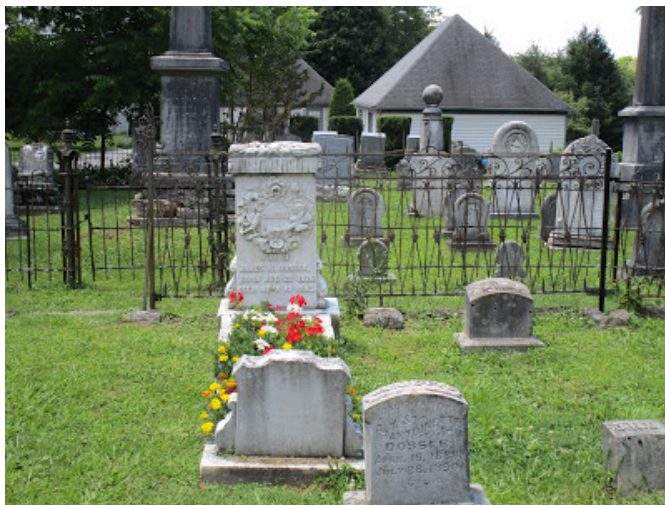
I remembered my Great-Grandmother Isis Browning-Forgey as I was listening to the history of this cemetery, and burial customs in early America. I learned something about burial customs from a letter Isis wrote in 1907, with instructions for her burial and funeral. She said she wanted to be buried in a black robe and slippers, and didn't want to be put away too

quick or kept out for viewing too long. Her dearest wish came to mind seeing the stream when I headed back to town and saw the little creek again. "Now I am going to tell the wish that is dearest to my heart of anything in this world is that some sweet day I may be able to stand on the banks of the New Jerusalem and clasp glad hands with each and everyone that is near and dear to me in this world."



On the tour I learned about the burial custom of burying people with their feet facing east, because Christ was said to return in the east. They wanted to rise onto their feet facing in the right direction. Christianity influenced early burials, but these customs were later replaced by more secular customs such as Tombstones designed for more esthetically pleasing purposes, rather than only religious significance. The tombstone below reflects the emphasis on beauty rather than the early morbid tombstones showing skulls etc.. This tombstone is part of a cradle grave meaning it extends out in a cradle like form. The cradle extension can be used as a planter, as in this case. The cradle style was often used for young women, such as those who died in childbirth. It was a demonstration of the extreme devotion to someone very beloved.





The change in attitudes and styles of burial really got going during the Victorian era, beginning in 1837. Death was viewed as more of a celebration because the dead were going to their reward in heaven. This attitude led to the use of cemeteries as parks, where families would picnic and spend time relaxing. Landscaping further added to the park like atmosphere. Death was also romanticized as can be seen in some of the tombstones designed to evoke this feeling.

Joneborough Cemetery is a city cemetery, the first plot was purchased in 1803. It was never a church cemetery. Cemeteries unaffiliated with churches also influenced the secularization of burial.

This cemetery contains the graves of many prominent early settlers of Tennessee, including the first Mayor of Knoxville (1816-1817) Thomas Emmerson and his wife Catherine, and their adopted child.





Tombstone of Catherine Emmerson wife the first Mayor of Knoxville. It's being repaired as you can see.



Grave of Thomas Emmerson first Mayor of Knoxville b. 1772 d. 1837

Towns tended to be the areas where more financially well off citizens lived. Small business people and professionals lived in town. The Old Jonesborough Cemetery reflects the wealth of the town. My ancestors who died during the 18th and 19th centuries are mostly buried in unmarked graves, or graves marked much later. Farmers, such as my ancestors, were often buried on their farm with graves marked by stones (by the way it's still legal in Tennessee for someone to be buried on their property). Marking graves has always been expensive. A craftsman had to be paid for the skilled work they performed, and the materials could be costly. After the railroad came to town fortunes increased enormously, which is also reflected in the elaborate monuments. Train transport also meant tombstones could be shipped in from mass producers. Tombstones could be purchased through the Sear's catalog.









This is another interesting tombstone for a cadet at the Naval Academy in Annapolis. He drowned during boating exercise apparently? The stone shows a little hand reaching up towards a small boat and oar. I've seen others who have drowned with similar tombstones, depicting someone with arms up stretched.





When I first saw this large cemetery with two slopes I didn't think anything of it other than it was a large cemetery. When I took the tour I found out it's a segregated cemetery. One slope was for whites the other blacks. Before the African American cemetery was founded slaves and freed slaves would have been buried in the ditch between the slopes along with paupers.

The African American cemetery is still active. The white cemetery isn't.



Looking toward "colored" slope of Cemetery

African Americans also had their own church in Jonesborough. When I first saw this evidence of segregation I thought this confirms the Southern stereotypes I learned. I then remembered that Forest Lawn in Glendale, California began as an all white cemetery. Interesting



many famous African Americans are now buried there like Michael Jackson. California was as segregated as much of the South before the Civil Rights era. Before getting overly sanctimonious we have to remember racism was everywhere in America before the Civil Rights era, and has been seriously diminished but not completely eradicated to this day.

under this Deed the said parties are  
 -powered to set apart such portion of the land herein  
 conveyed and not otherwise disposed of as they may  
 deem proper for the burial of colored persons and stran-  
 -gers  
 In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our  
 hands and seals this 25<sup>th</sup> day of July 1847  
 Signed sealed & delivered in presence of  
 John Blair : seal  
 Wm H Blair : seal  
 J R L Blair : seal  
 Seth P W Lusk : seal

Deed setting aside land for burial of colored persons and other strangers



The African Methodist Church can be seen in this pic on the other side of the railroad tracks.



It is wonderful to see volunteers are restoring this beautiful cemetery. There are still some tombstones lying flat. One of my own ancestor's stones is also lying flat in another cemetery. I found out that isn't good for the stone, and may eventually lead to it's complete destruction. Below you see a tombstone being replaced on it's base.

Maintaining the cemetery is expensive. Mowing that much lawn on a frequent basis is very expensive too. I'm hoping the cost never leads to the abandonment of this cemetery. Going on the paid tours is a good way to support the cemetery.



Like I stated earlier cemeteries are such moving places. Places where we remember our history, and loved ones who have gone before us. I've seen stones that say something like, "I was once up there where you now walk." That reminds me that I have a meeting with my Great-Grandmother Isis Browning-Forgey on the banks of the New Jerusalem, but hopefully not too soon!

For further information about this cemetery here is the contact information: Heritage Alliance, 212 East Sabin Drive, Jonesborough, Tennessee (423-753-9580).

Tour info: <http://jonesborough.com/event/old-jonesborough-cemetery-tour-4/>

Posted by **Annette** at **4:28 PM**No comments: 

Sunday, August 20, 2017

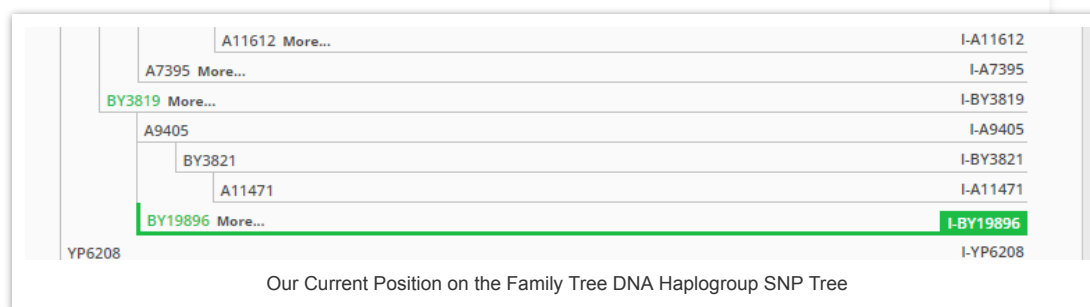
## BIG Y: I got it, I don't got it?

The Forgey/Forgy & Forgie project is participating in the myGroups Beta! [Click here](#) to see your new myGroups page.

Welcome to myFTDNA

**I-BY19896** **Get Yours!**  
Y-DNA Haplogroup mtDNA Haplogroup

The Big Y DNA test is an advanced Y DNA test, of course for males only. The test is designed to place testers on the Y haplogroup tree. A haplogroup tree looks something like our pedigree chart. There are off shooting branches from our ancient common lines leading down to more modern times. haplogroups generally only tell us about our ancient geographic roots, and migrations. The BigY is attempting to change that by identifying more modern haplogroups, using novel variants, making it useful for genealogy.



My Forgey family is now in the Big Y at Family Tree DNA (FTDNA). My uncle and one of his 5th cousins, once removed, have been upgraded to the Big Y. SNP's or mutations, Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms, are determined by the mutations of nucleobases ATCG which are used to determine someones haplogroup. A Nucleobase base at one particular position, which differs from a reference sample determines whether a tester is positive for a particular SNP or mutation.

My Uncle and his 5th cousin once removed both shared the same nucleobase for a SNP that had not yet been named as a haplogroup. When a SNP hasn't been named yet it is identified by a long string of numbers giving its position, such as 2580707, the reference may be A for that position, but the tester may be G at that position, meaning there was a mutation (which my uncle and cousin matched exactly in their case in order to be a match and test positive for the newly named haplogroup). If two or more people match at that position with the same base (ATCG) this SNP may, or may not, be deemed significant enough to be named as a new haplogroup.

Some of the SNP's now being identified by name as haplogroups may be fairly recent? It does appear, as these haplogroups are added, they are mainly shared by specific surnames, or since surname groups are over represented they may just represent the geographical area where these surnames developed?

My uncle and his 5th cousin, once removed, now have their own haplogroup which no other tester so far shares. Before this haplogroup SNP was discovered, likely by the I-M223 group



administrator Wayne Rogers at FTDNA, we were in the haplogroup I-BY3819 that was estimated to be 900 or more years old making it useless for genealogy purposes. It did confirm our Scottish origins however, plus suggest the name is derived from Ferguson the dominate surname in that haplogroup. The new haplogroup could be either unique to our surname, or the geographical area our family lived in, or even more widespread? Hard to say since so few men have tested.

A way to test how old this haplogroup might be would be to SNP test for the new haplogroup BY19896/BY198967. We know both of our Forgey Big Y testers share a common ancestor around 300 years ago. We don't know when the other Forgeys who settled in America share a common ancestor? It would be interesting to see if all of the Forgey lines share the same terminal SNP. It costs \$39 dollars to test a SNP. Much cheaper than the Big Y. So this kind of testing is doable.

Something I don't get is YFull has quality scores for SNP's which seem to disagree with conclusions about SNP's made by Big Y? Hence "I got this, I don't got this" in my title for this post. The yet to be named SNP's are called Novel SNP's. YFull also calls those SNP's only found in a single tester private. When more than one tester shares a SNP it isn't private anymore, and becomes unlocked which can lead to breakthroughs. So it is good to test as many distant cousins at different degrees of relationship, or those sharing the same surname as you can afford to unlock these SNP's, which hopefully we lead us to more modern times.

According to FTDNA both of our testers have around half a dozen high confidence positive results on yet to be named SNP's. YFull has a propriety SNP quality rating system. My uncle's test is still being analyzed by YFull so we don't know the quality of his yet to be named, or novel SNP's? Roger's analysis has been completed and according to YFull the best quality of novel SNP's he has are two in the "acceptable category". None what they call "best quality". The rest are rated my by them as "ambiguous". The SNP's shared between my uncle, and his 5th cousin once removed, are all classified as ambiguous by YFull? Not sure of the quality rating for these SNP's will affect our placement in the YFull tree? Will YFull recognize the I-BY19896 haplogroup? Or keep us in the I-BY3819 haplogroup?

My uncle and his 5th cousin, once removed, each share many novel SNP's, but also have a couple they don't share, which may prove helpful if these SNP's are ever added for SNP testing. They would appear to have developed later than 300 years ago? Some novel variant SNP's may be significant and some may not? We also have unnamed novel SNP's shared by many others, likely quite old. We just have to wait and see where this all leads. I'm still learning how to work with these results, and rely on expertise of the group administrators like Colin Ferguson and Wayne Rogers.

You can learn more about the Big Y by watching these Youtube videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=36gIHE6kOBk&t=2170s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DxdPSG0VZIY>

Position	Reference	Genotype	Confidence
Position Search	Show All	Show All	High
18589697			High
22314052			High
22314079			High
22316739			High
22339314			High
23599719			High
6482768			High

Position	Reference	Genotype	Confidence
Position Search	Show All	Show All	High
13639340			High
18589697			High
22314052			High
22314079			High
22316739			High
22339314			High

Here you can see novel SNP's represented by the numbered positions far left. These are the results for our two Forgey testers as you can see they share most of the same novel SNP's but not all. These mutations are probably more recent than 300 years.

Posted by Annette at 1:56 PM No comments: 

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)[My Pedigree Charts](#)[Research Goals](#)

Friday, December 22, 2017

## Maryland Browning Research

Now that so many more original documents are online I'm taking the opportunity to collect more information on all my lines. I'm attempting to confirm some of the trees I've found online using these documents.

This week I'm working on confirming the Browning line. Back when FamilySearch went online in May of 1999 the only family I was able to find was the Browning family. According to this patron contributed database information my Browning line went back to Francis Browning and Rachel Marriott who settled in Maryland in the late 1600's.

I have not found any evidence that Francis Browning and Rachel Marriott were the parents of my ancestor Edward Browning. I have been able to prove my line back to Edward Browning and wife Elizabeth who first appears in Montgomery County, Maryland in 1758. Someone stated they found this Edward in the same area in 1736, but I have not found anything confirming that.

Here is what can be pieced together using early Maryland surviving documents. What we know about the first Browning family to settle in Maryland comes from John Browning. He needed to establish a legal claim to his deceased father's property. In 1679 he swore to the fact that he was Thomas Browning's son, and that Thomas Browning transported 9 people to Maryland and received headright land for that in 1664. Thomas Browning's wife was said to be Hester and she does appear as one transported by him in 1665. Also transported was his son John.

John Browning of Cecil County, Thomas's son, transported Eliza, George, Thomas, and Hester Browning. John did have a wife named Elizabeth? This Eliza could be John's wife. The other Brownings named could be John's children?



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2020  
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STANLEY & SONS 1017 E

Browning, Thomas

AA:316-17 Film No:SR 8200

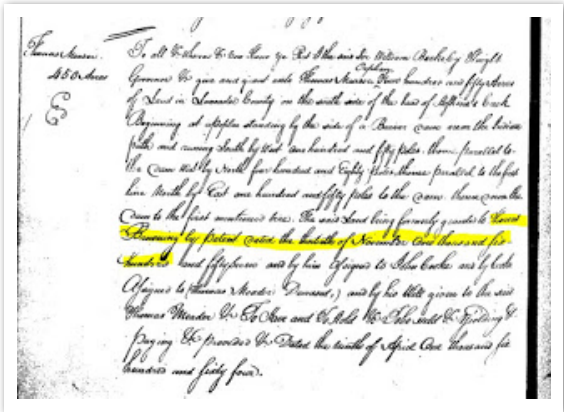
Transported himself, Hester, his wife, John, his son, & Richard James, his servant, by 1665; dead by 1679

Transcript: 6:18 [SR 7348]; 9:490 [SR 7351]; 21:105 [SR 7362]; WC2:73 [SR 7340]

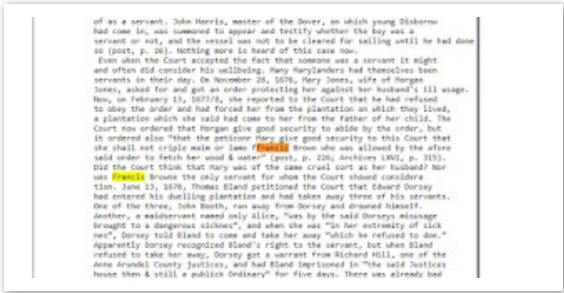
Original: EE:489 [SR 8203]; WC3:182 [SR 7550]

MSA SC 4341-4769

Some think that Thomas and Hester originally settled in Lancaster County, Virginia in the 1650's? There were a number of Browning in Virginia in the early to mid 17th century. A John Browning was a Jamestown settler. It's thought Thomas might descend from him or be related in some way?

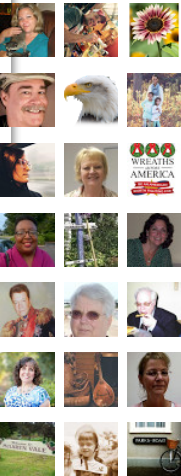


Francis Browning is the man my line is said to descend from. There are two Francis Brownings listed in "The New Early Settlers of Maryland" by Dr. Carson Gibb. The one in St. Mary's county was an indentured servant. I'm not sure our Francis was the same person listed as being transported in 1670? Some evidence seems to suggest he isn't. The indentured servant may not be a Browning as his name is sometimes spelled Brown or Browne. He was described as a boy in 1678. If our Francis Browning was born in the 1670's it is unlikely the indentured servant was his father.



There appears to be a different Francis who is said to have be born in America to Thomas Browning and Hester or their son John? According to the author Richey Tracks of the book "Browning family revision, includes related lines: of Hickman-Lewis-Lloyd-Moore", "Francis was born about 1672, probably in Cecil County, ... Court Minutes of Cecil County, Maryland, dated November 9, 1698, record a suit by Edward Skidmore against Francis Browning for the settlement of a small debt." Is this really a different Francis Browning? The Thomas Browning and wife Hester's family is fairly well off. They had connections to trade in Jamaica and Barbados. The Francis that settled in Virginia was fairly well off too. One of the Brownings in Maryland mentioned some land he owned in Virginia. John Browning who died in 1741 in Kent County, Maryland said he owned land in Virginia, plus mentioned the name of someone living in Orange County, Virginia. It is possible that we are descended from the indentured servant, or the

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- January (1)
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Thomas Browning and Hester family? The only way to confirm if there is a relationship with this couple is through a Browning Y DNA study.

**Browning, Francis**  
WC4:194-5 Film No:SR 8264  
Of St. Mary's County, service by 1682  
MSA SC 4341-7993

**Browning, Francis**  
JJ:214 Film No:  
Transported by 1670  
Transcript: 12:584  
MSA SC 4341-

- 2016 (24)
- 2015 (30)
- 2014 (53)
- 2013 (59)
- 2012 (76)
- 2011 (94)

About Me



Annette  
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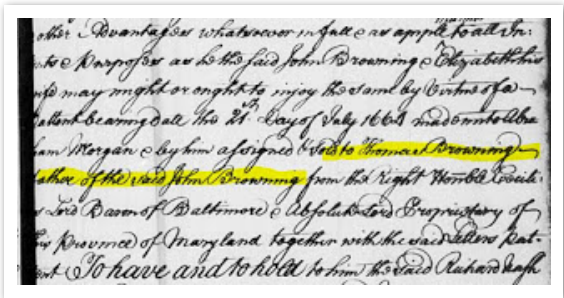
Some believe Francis Browning returned to England with his mother Hester and siblings. They believe this is the family listed on the 1696 Census for Gloucestershire England. Someone looked into that and found a Francis Browning who remained in that area years after Francis of Virginia was already in America. Doesn't sound promising. Although some DNA testing may be proving the Gloucestershire roots?

172 INHABITANTS OF BRISTOL IN 1696					
Inhabitants' Names		Burials	Births	Marriages	Bachelors & Widowers
Hester Browning	Francis Hester Judith				
Elizabeth Mary & Ann ch.					
Henry Alder & Sarah wf.		4 0	2 0	2 6	
Daniel Asford & Margaret wf.					
Timothy Davis & Hester wf.					
Timothy & Webb ch.					
[p. 8] Robert Elmes & Grace wf.					
Thomas Mary Robert & Hannah ch.		4 0	2 0	2 6	
John Jarman & Ann wf.					
Henry Cleavelly gr.ch.					
Samuel Bennett & Hannah wf.					
Samuel s.		4 0	2 0	2 6	
John Jones & Elizabeth wf.					

What we know for certain is the Kent County and Cecil County, Maryland Brownings are descended from Thomas Browning and wife Hester.

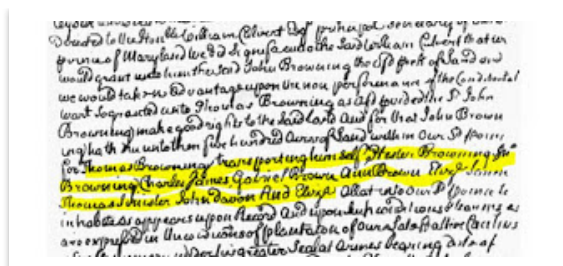
The Cecil County, Maryland Brownings

What we also know for certain is Browning's Plantation in Baltimore County, Maryland, now Cecil County, was purchased from Abraham Morgan who patented it in 1664, and it was sold in 1672 by John Browning and wife Elizabeth . The land was purchased by Thomas Browning referred to as John's father in this deed.

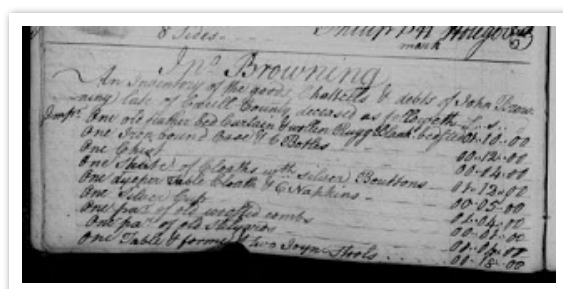


In 1679 John claimed his father Thomas Browning's headright. Apparently that Thomas was dead by 1679. Here is a portion of the letter granting John his father's land:



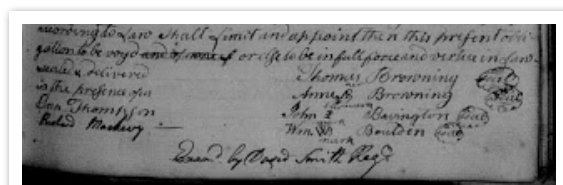


In 1690 an inventory is recorded for a John Browning in Cecil County, Maryland.



There is a Thomas Browning married to a wife named Anne who appears in late 17th century Cecil County records. I had thought Hester died and John's father Thomas remarried? It seems more likely that he is another son of Thomas and Hester, or a grandson of theirs through their son John? Thomas had a daughter named Ester. The names Ester and Hester were interchangeable, which suggests this Thomas is descended from Thomas and Hester.

I'm confused by a court record which names Anne Browning as a relict, widow, in February 1695. This record describes Anne as the Administrix of Darby Nolan. In June of 1694 she is referred to and signs a bond along with her husband Thomas regarding the same Darby Nolan estate. In 1696 there is still a Thomas in Cecil County, so I don't believe she was widowed by Thomas yet. She must have been Darby Nolan's widow. This Thomas has a daughter named Ester.



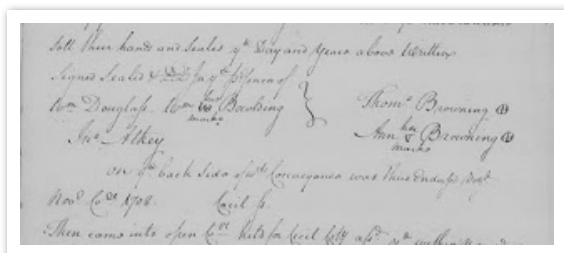
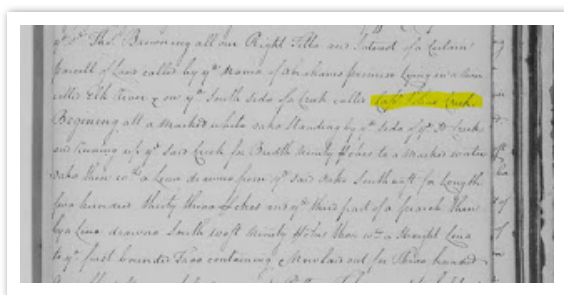
The only thing I'm confident about is the Cecil and Kent County Brownings are related. We know Hester and Thomas are parents of the John who died in 1690 in Cecil County. We know there was a younger Thomas who died in 1721, in Cecil County, and is related, and is likely a descendant or another son of Thomas and Hester. George Browning is transported by John Browning of Cecil County and is definitely related, and could be his son. We don't know if Francis is related? The only way to prove it is through a Y DNA test.

In 1702 George and Mary Browning sell land in Cecil County, Maryland.

In 1702 Thomas buys land in Cecil County from Matthias Smith.

In 1702 John and Thomas sell land in Cecil County together. It appears they weren't married as no wives are mentioned. They sold the land to James Watkins. (interesting that much later a Jeremiah Watkin's was involved in a suit over Edward Browning's will).

In 1708 Thomas Browning of Cecil County, Maryland and Ann Browning buy and sell land. Interesting a parcel they sold is situated on Captain John's Creek. I wonder if this is Capt. John Browning? This Thomas Browning dies in 1721 leaving estate to sons Thomas and William. A daughter Ester (Hester), and possibly a daughter Elizabeth.



The Cecil County, Maryland Brownings were later listed in Kent County, Maryland records. It looks like the family migrated to neighboring Kent County.

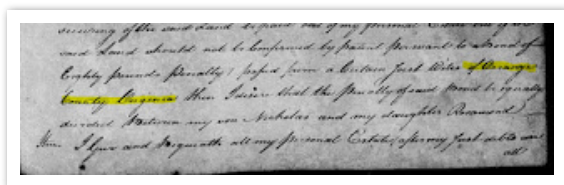
## Brownings In Kent County, Maryland

George Browning left a will dated 1732 in Kent. Leaving his estate to his siblings, Elizabeth and Mary,

Another George Browning died in 1735. He said his father was also named George Browning. He names no wife or children.

A Thomas Browning dies in Kent in 1739. He leaves his estate to his sons William, John, his wife Joan, and a Martha Browning.

John Browning of Kent County died in Kent County, Maryland 1741. He mentions Orange County, Virginia in his will. He leaves his estate to eldest son Writson, and sons John, Thomas, George, Nicholas, and daughter Rosamond. He mentions a brother George. Wife was Rachel. He owns land in Virginia called Brownings Choice.

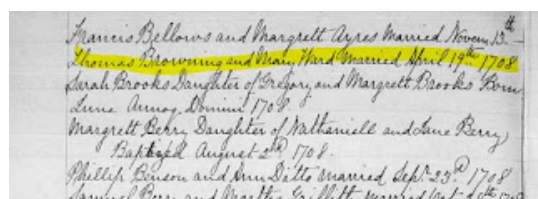


Writson Browning died in 1769. Sons Joshua, John Writson, Joshua, George, and Thomas. Daughters Elizabeth and Cornelia. They owned some very expensive furnishings. He

willed a tea set, and silver spoons to a daughter. He also willed some expensive furniture such as beds and a dressing table.

Sary died in Kent County, Maryland in 1775. She sounds like Writson Browning's wife. She has a son named John Writson Browning. Also son's George, Thomas. Daughters Cornealey and Elizabeth.

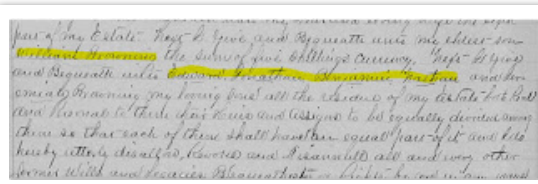
Thomas Browning and Mary Ward of Kent County, Maryland married 27 April 1708. Their family is listed in the St. Paul's Church records of Kent County, Maryland.



St. Paul's Church record

### The Montgomery and Frederick County, Maryland Brownings

Moving on to the Edward Browning and Elizabeth family. Edward's children are listed in his 1760's will.



I'm confident with my Browning lineage back to Edward Browning who died in 1788. He may have been born around 1700. There is an Edward Browning who appears in Maryland records beginning in 1706. Could this be Edward's father? It's possible that Thomas Browning and Hester's son John was Edward's father? It's possible the indentured servant Francis, or another Edward Browning was his father?

My confidence in the fact Montgomery County, Maryland family is Roger's family stems from the fact Benjamin Browning, confirmed son of Edward, left his estate to his his eldest son Roger. He followed the English tradition of primogeniture. The fact Roger Browning lived in Tennessee and doesn't state he is from Maryland in any surviving documents may cause us to question this connection? The naming patterns in the Roger Browning family are similar to those of the Edward Browning family. Edward had sons named Benjamin and Nathan, and so did Roger. Also one of Roger's grandchildren, Jesse, knew there was a connection to Maryland even though he were born in Tennessee. Several of Nathan Browning's children, Roger's grandchildren, stated their father Nathan was born in Virginia, according to the 1880 and 1900 Censuses. My mother has a solid AncestryDNA match to a confirmed Edward Browning descendant, who descends from Eli Browning.

Autosomal DNA testing suggests that our Brownings may be related to the Francis Browning family of Culpepper County, Virginia. My mother has some DNA matches with their Browning descendants. A Caleb Browning descendant is one of her matches. Also a segment from someone claiming to descend from Francis Browning and Rachel Marriott overlaps a confirmed Browning match, who descends through a Catherine Browning.

In 1706 an Edward Browning is listed as living in Baltimore's Spes Utiz Hundred.

An Edward Browning was referred to in the 1708 estate papers of John Hunt of Philadelphia. The executor was Richard Bennett of Queen Anne's County, Maryland (some of Edward's children were married in Philadelphia).

Also in 1708 according to the book "*Abstracts of the Testamentary Proceedings of the Prerogative*", by Skinner, Edward Browning was executor of James Mackneale, "per Mr. Vanderheyen." This was in Kent County, Maryland.

I'm not sure who this early Edward Browning was?

About 1725 is the year Edward's son Jonathan Browning was likely born according the "History of western Maryland : being a history of Frederick, Montgomery, Carroll, Washington, Allegany, and Garrett counties from the earliest period to the present day" printed in 1892.

We first find Edward and sons listed in the land patents records for Frederick County, Maryland. Edward is the first to patent land in 1758 with his sons following suit.

1770/10/12	Resurvey On Maple Branch, Jonathan Browning, 200 Acres	Patented Certificate 2610
1764/06/21	What You Please, Nathan Browning, 50 Acres	Patented Certificate 5085
1761/04/14	Fat Bacon, William Browning, 20 Acres	Patented Certificate 1337
1758/12/10	Maple Branch, Jonathan Browning, 37 1/2 Acres	Patented Certificate 2565-46
1758/11/10	No Name, Edward Browning, 10 Acres	Patented Certificate 2821-63
1758/11/02	Brownings Polly, Edward Browning Jr, 14 Acres	Patented Certificate 661

Edward Browning sold land called Friendship Running and Bounding in Frederick County, Maryland in August of 1769 to his son Jeremiah. He gave a tract called Friendship Beginning to his son Benjamin. Edward stated he gave the land to Jeremiah in consideration of "natural love and affection." Parents generally transferred land to children with the consideration being love and affection.

Edward Browning Jr. bought a parcel of land called Snowden's Manor, from Richard Snowden in 1760 in Frederick county, Maryland. The land was said to be near James Duncaster's land. Edward paid with English sterling. Not sure if that is a hint this family came from England more recently? The fact the Junior Edward purchased land in 1760 would suggest he was over 20 years old. This would mean he was likely born before 1740. Giving us a hint of Edward Sr.'s age.

In 1755 brothers Benjamin and Jonathan Browning along with Jeremiah Prather were charged with "breach of the peace ignomous." They forced their way into the plantation of John Davis and assaulted his son Charles Davis according to "*This was the Life: Excerpts from the Judgment Records of Frederick County , Maryland 1748-1765.*"

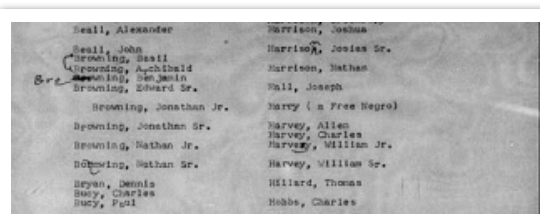
In 1768 Edward Browning and Samuel Waters are summoned to court in Frederick County "to show cause why they do not account for crops on Plantation." This is regards the estate of Edward Browning's father-in-law Eller Burton, through his second marriage to Drusilla Burton.

In 1784 in Montgomery County, Maryland Edward Browning Sr.'s son Benjamin (my ancestor) sells Friendship to Ashor Laton. Friendship was in Frederick County when Benjamin's father gave the land to him in 1769. Montgomery County wasn't formed until 1776. A problem I spotted with the 1784 deed was Ann was named as Benjamin's wife not Mary (as in Mary Abbott).

In 1783 in Montgomery County, Maryland Edward Browning Jr. sold a 23 year old slave named Doll to Jonathon Nixon for 8000 pounds of Tobacco.

In 1779 Edward and Jeremiah Browning. sold another portion of the parcel Friendship. They sold it to Samuel Phillips of Montgomery County, Maryland. Jeremiah's wife is named as Cassandria.

The 1778 Tax list for Linganore Hundred Montgomery County, Maryland below.



1778 Tax List Montgomery County, Maryland

### Tax list 1783 Montgomery County, Maryland

Archibald Browning. MO Linganore and Sugar Loaf Hundred

Basil Browning. MO Linganore and Sugar Loaf Hundred

Edward Browning. No Name, 30 acres. MO Linganore and Sugar Loaf Hundred

Edward Browning, Sr. MO Linganore and Sugar Loaf Hundred

Edward Browning, Sr. Fancy, 10 acres. MO Linganore and Sugar Loaf Hundred

Edward Browning, Sr. Red Oak Slip, 140 acres. MO Linganore and Sugar Loaf Hundred

Jonathan Browning. Long Looked For, pt, 44 acres. MO Linganore and Sugar Loaf Hundred

Jonathan Browning. Maple Branch, 300 acres. MO Linganore and Sugar Loaf Hundred

Jonathan Browning, Jr. MO Linganore and Sugar Loaf Hundred

Jonathan Browning, Sr. MO Linganore and Sugar Loaf Hundred

Virilinda Browning. MO Linganore and Sugar Loaf Hundred

Virilinda Browning. Timber Neck, pt, 100 acres. MO Linganore and Sugar Loaf Hundred

Virilinda Browning. What You Please, 50 acres. MO Linganore and Sugar Loaf Hundred

Volinda Browning. Hope Improved, pt, 24 acres. MO Linganore and Sugar Loaf Hundred

6 September 1804 is the date of the death of Jonathon Browning son of Edward.

Edward Browning died in 1788.

On 10 June 1788 Elizabeth Sampson of Montgomery County, Maryland appeared in court regarding the destruction of Edward Browning's will. If there are any surviving documents they could help us name many of Edwards descendants.

In closing I have to reiterate we have no documentation regarding the parents of Edward Browning born about 1700 of Frederick and Montgomery Counties, or Francis Browning of Culpepper County, Virginia. We do have some atDNA matches suggesting Edward and Francis might be related.



Posted by Annette at 4:43 PM

5 comments:



Saturday, December 9, 2017

# Tax Lists and Provenance

Chester County taxes, 1761-1766, for that part of the county which became Delaware County	Add
Author: Chester County (Pennsylvania). Collectors	
Miscellaneous records from Chester County, Pennsylvania	Add
Author: Lapp, Dorothy B.	
Proprietary tax lists of the county of Chester	Add
Author: Igle, William Henry, 1820-1901	
Septennial census for 1857; list of taxable inhabitants taken in 1856 in Chester County, Pennsylvania	Add
Author: Chester County (Pennsylvania). Assessors	
Septennial enumeration of the taxable inhabitants, slaves, etc., 1842	Add
Author: Chester County (Pennsylvania). Assessors	
Tax and exciseable lists, 1764-1766, for Chester County	Add
Author: Pennsylvania. Comptroller General	
Tax list of Chester County, Pennsylvania, 1897-1774	Add
Tax lists to 1993	Add
Author: Chester County Historical Society (West Chester, Pennsylvania)	
Tax lists, 1897-1993, 1775-1776	Add
Author: Chester County Historical Society (West Chester, Pennsylvania)	
Tax records, 1713-1923	Add
Author: Chester County (Pennsylvania). Board of County Commissioners	
Tax transcripts, 1713-1908	Add
Author: Chester County (Pennsylvania). Board of County Commissioners	
Taxation of Bradford and West Bradford, Pennsylvania, 1728-1763	Add
Author: Lapp, Dorothy B.	

Tax lists are a favorite source of mine. I've found ancestors on the lists who appear nowhere else. If an ancestor never owned property, or was a woman, they may only be found on tax lists. Widows are found on tax lists. From my experience Kentucky has the most surviving Tax Lists. I'm mainly familiar with tax lists in the Midwest and South, I'm not sure about tax lists in North East States?

Tax lists tell you when males came of age, because that is when they first appear on tax lists. Sometimes they appear on tax lists at 18, and sometimes 21, depending on local laws. They also tell you when males died, or aged off lists, or left an area. Sometimes they state

relationships. I did find one case where an ancestor was described as the son of someone.

You can now find many of these lists online at sites such as [Ancestry](#) and [FamilySearch](#). The digitization of the Family History Library microfilms is adding to the online Tax lists.

I got back into Tax List research when I learned my immigrant ancestor, who was granted a travel pass in Germany, never appeared in American records. I had assumed he had been found in Colonial American records, but only was made aware of the fact he didn't appear from a blog post I found about the Brower [DNA project](#). This ancestor's name was Hubert Brower. He traveled to America with his wife and children. He definitely isn't in deed records or court records. I decided to look for him on Tax lists which tended to cover a larger percentage of the population. Although landless males did appear on tax lists they were sometimes living as paupers so were exempt from taxation, which might be a problem as Hubert Brower and family probably arrived in America with very little.

The ancestor, Hubert Brower, I was looking for most likely would have settled in Pennsylvania where his children lived, and descendants continue to live, from the 18th Century to present. The family lived in Vincent and Coventry Townships, Chester County, Pennsylvania, for many generations. Hubert's travel pass was dated May 1726. There are surviving tax lists covering that time period.

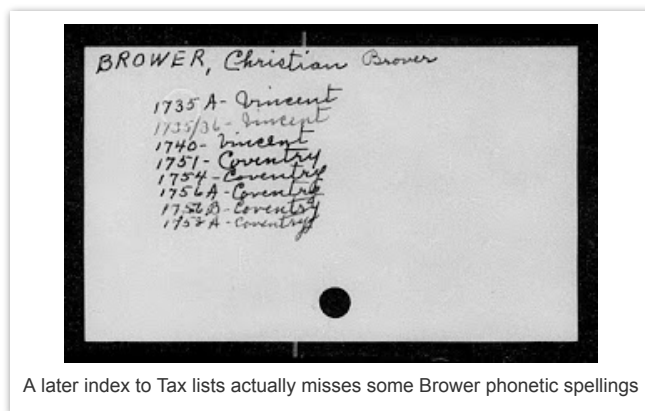
Finding the original tax lists copies required sorting through several digitized films covering that time period. The digital film titled "Tax Transcripts 1715-1900" contains the original tax lists. These lists are sorted by township.

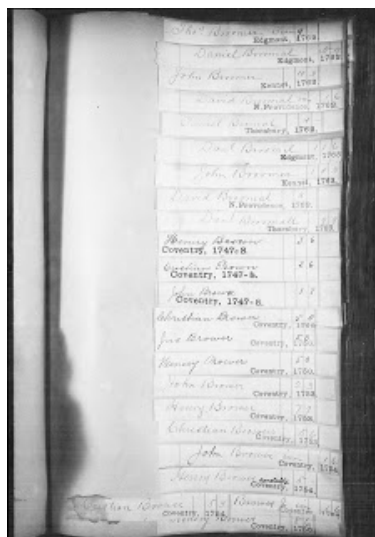
#### Tax transcripts, 1715-1900

Author: Chester County (Pennsylvania). Board of County Commissioners

There is an index for lists from 1715-1799 here <http://www.chesco.org/1729/18th-Century-Tax-Records>

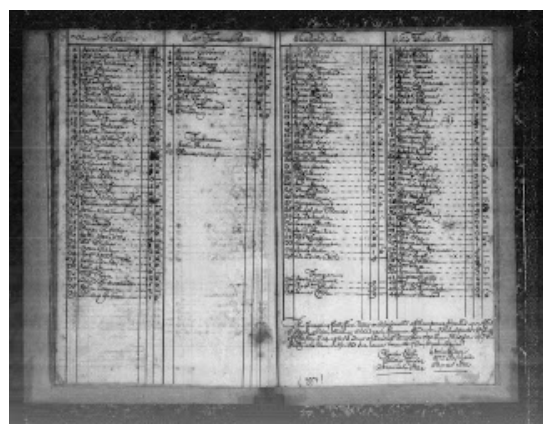
The other tax list microfilms for Chester County are just later indexes, basically.





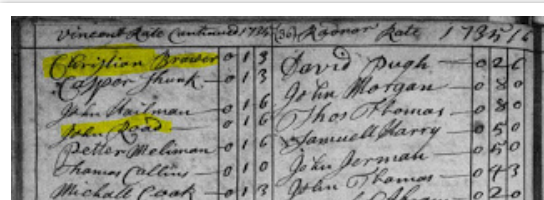
Another typed copy which lists individuals in alphabetical order

The original tax lists are much more helpful because they list people by township, making it easier to find relatives and neighbors living near an ancestor.



I'm finding that the names, especially German names, were often phonetically spelled and varied with different tax collectors and different years. The indexes weren't helpful in several cases because the names were badly misspelled.

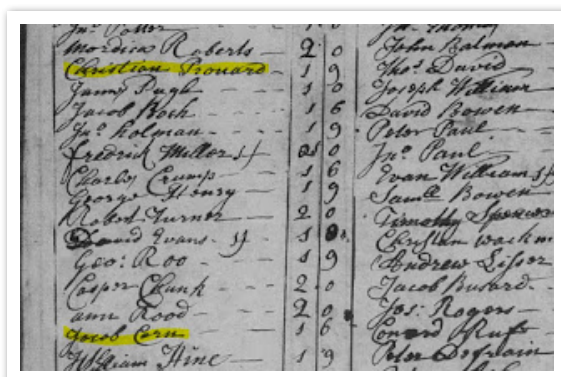
Here we find Christian Brower's name spelled correctly, listed with his stepfather John Road, in Vincent Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania.



His stepfather's name can be found in the records spelled Road, Rode, Rod, and Roth.

Christian's name is badly misspelled on the 1739 list below. I couldn't find this 1739 entry in the indexes for Christian because of the misspelling.

At this point his mother Ann was a widow and appears as Ann Rood on the same 1739 Vincent Township list.



Unfortunately these tax lists aren't complete for every year, and some years are missing altogether. Only a couple lists survive for the year 1726. Hubert Brower never appears on any tax lists. There are a few complete tax lists for years around 1726, and he doesn't show up on any of them. We do know that Hubert's wife Anna remarried in the 1730's. I'm not sure when the 1726 taxes were recorded and paid? The family left Germany around May 1726. Even if Hubert made it to Pennsylvania in 1726 he may not have been there in time to be recorded on a tax list. It looks like he died on the voyage to America or soon after arriving.

While I didn't find Hubert Brower on any of these lists I did learn more about his son, and my own ancestor Christian Brower. Later tax lists, which are available at Ancestry.com also, give additional facts about Christian, including the number of acres of land he owned, his livestock, and the fact the family had one servant.



Without any record of him having lived in America I wondered what the proof was that Hubert Brower, wife Anna and children were the ancestors of the Browers of Chester County, Pennsylvania? According to witnesses the travel pass, letters, and other documents were found in a trunk in Henry Brower's attic. The Brower line is based on the provenance of these documents. There are no documents stating Hubert Brower or Anna were the parents of Christian, Henry. and John.

This is my first line proven based on provenance of documents found in an attic. I'll have to look up a citation for that.

Early Tax lists for Chester County, PA, from 1715 to 1900, are available online at FamilySearch when using computers at the FHC's (**find one near you**) or a Family History Library. Many Chester County, PA records are available for research at home through FamilySearch, unfortunately the tax lists are not searchable from anywhere.

**Pennsylvania Tax lists from 1768 to 1801** are available at Ancestry.

What I've learned with this research is badly misspelled names may not show up where you expect in an index.

I was able to resolve a problem I didn't know existed until this week with the help of Tax lists and a descendant at a Brower family group on Facebook. The descendant had seen the trunk with the documents so could vouch for their provenance and authenticity. The problem is resolved to my satisfaction.

---

Posted by **Annette** at **9:08 AM**

No comments:



Saturday, December 2, 2017

## Isotopic Testing and Genealogy/ Marking DNA Matches at AncestryDNA



Poor Jane was eaten during the starving time

I visited Jamestown Settlement and Historic site last fall. Since many of my ancestors lived at some point in Virginia the history of that state fascinates me. Also it was thought my ancestor Francis Browning may have descended from Jamestown settlers?

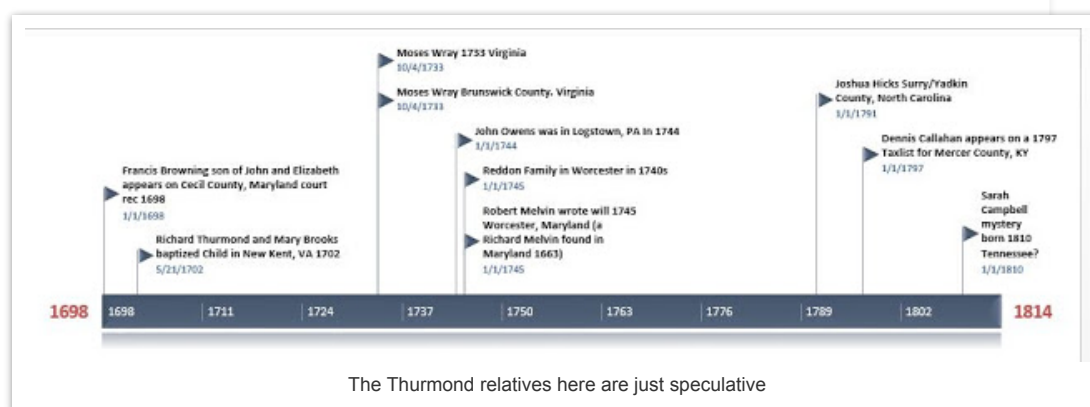
I really enjoyed my visit to these Jamestown sites. I wanted to learn more about the **Jamestowne Historic site** so I'm currently reading "Jamestown the Buried Truth" by William M. Kelso, Jamestowne archaeologist. The similarities between genealogy and archaeology became very apparent to me reading this book. Archaeologists dig down through layers of earth each layer representing a particular time period. The deeper they dig the farther back in time they go. Same with genealogists, our layers being generations. Some new genealogists tend to miss the layering and connect the wrong generations.





Two of my goals have been to find the place of origin in Europe of my ancestors, and find out when some of these earliest families arrived in America. I have not been able to actually pinpoint an exact place of origin for any British Isles/Irish ancestors, except possibly the Forgeys in Co. Louth, Ireland? All of my British Isles ancestors appear to have come to this country before the American revolution.

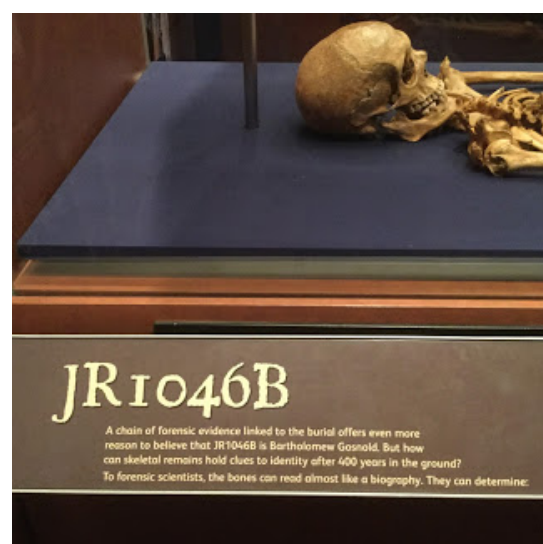
Here is a chart with the earliest dates in America of my British Isles/Irish ancestors. Many appear to have Scottish or Scots/Irish roots based on their settlement on the frontiers, and their Presbyterian religion. Campbell is definitely a Scottish surname. I have no idea when these particular ancestors arrived and from where?



My dead end regarding the origins of these families sparked my interest in the information found in teeth and bone analysis at Jamestown. How can teeth and bone help pinpoint where in the British Isles an ancestor came from? An explanation from Jamestown scientists, "Oxygen isotopes are stored in our teeth in childhood and can be used with other information to determine where a person grew up." This test gives an approximate locations such as Wales, as a place where someone lived as a child.

A test on bones can tell us about the diet of the deceased. If a persons diet had been corn for a time period before their death that can be detected using the chemical composition testing. Skeletons with a corn based diet either were Europeans who had been in America for some time or Native Americans. Those with wheat based diets, according to these tests, died soon after arriving in America.

It is exciting to know that if the remains of our early American ancestors are still available that we can learn more about their origins through teeth and bones. Unfortunately for me and other genealogists finding and unearthing remains is generally impossible. But who knows maybe an archeologist will unearth some of their remains at some point? If you are related to those skeletons found at Jamestown you could be in luck. You could find yourself related to the Bartholomew Gosnold who has had an mtDNA test performed on his remains.



## Marking My Ancestry DNA matches

I decided to mark every DNA match at AncestryDNA I could identify a relationship with. Marking them with notes and stars. I basically identify them based on our most recent shared ancestral couple or a single ancestor. With couples I record the husband's surname first, a slash mark, then the wife's surname. If I know which of the couples children we relate through I record their first name. The second match, first column left, below, descends from Andrew Forgey and Margaret Reynolds through their son John. The estimate of 5th through 8th cousins would be correct. They would be 6th cousins, or 5th cousins once removed.

■ [redacted];4th - 6th cousins;Forgey?	■ [redacted];51;4th - 6th cousins;forgey/reynolds
■ [redacted];5th - 8th cousins;Forgey/Reynolds John	■ [redacted];5th - 8th cousins;Forgey/roller
■ [redacted];4th - 6th cousins;Forgey/Roller	■ LTPJRP;4th - 6th cousins;Forgey/Roller
■ C.W.;5th - 8th cousins;Forgey/Roller	■ J.W.;4th - 6th cousins;Forgey/Roller
■ S.S.;4th - 6th cousins;Forgey/Roller	■ [redacted];968;4th - 6th cousins;Forgey/Roller
■ [redacted];4th - 6th cousins;Forgey/Roller	■ [redacted];5th - 8th cousins;Forgey/Roller Eve
■ [redacted];5th - 8th cousins;Forgey/Roller John Forgey	■ [redacted];4th - 6th cousins;Forgey/Roller?
■ [redacted];4th - 6th cousins;Good Nicaraguan tree.	■ P.B.;5th - 8th cousins;Hertzel
■ J.H.;5th - 8th cousins;Holloway?	■ D.R.;4th - 6th cousins;Iris Forgey
■ [redacted];9461;5th - 8th cousins;Joseph Caleb Browning Bedford County	

The names with question marks generally mean this match doesn't have a tree, and I'm basing their relationship on shared matches. I only base relationships on shared matches if they share more than one common match with us. Sharing one common match is often a coincidence.

By catching up on marking identifiable matches searching by surnames I can separate them from my brickwall lines. If I search Campbell, for instance, and find a new match on that surname, and they have a very small tree I can might be able to eliminate them as descending from my Campbells using notes and shared matches. If this Campbell shares 5 Roller matches I can fairly confidently eliminate them as matching through Campbell. If they share one Roller match I wouldn't eliminate that possibility.

Out of around 11,000 matches for my late mother I was able, to some degree, identify the possible common ancestors for around 200 matches. Most of these are on well documented lines. The more surviving documentation, the longer the family has been in America, the number of trees online all seems to correlate with a high number of identified atDNA descendants and matches.

I don't think I was clear in my last blog post regarding finding the origin of atDNA segments. I'm not looking for the ultimate origin of segments, I'm actually looking for more recent origins at around the limit for the effective use of atDNA for genealogy; at round 5 or 6 generations.

By the way I downloaded the 11,000 matches with the chromosome browser extension AncestryDNA Helper. It would be great if we could download our matches and notes right from Ancestry. Using a browser extension, or downloading other applications, can be risky and infect your computer with malware or a virus. I have not had a problem with AncestryDNA Helper so it appears to be safe.

Since I can't dig up the ancestors I will return my focus to documents and DNA in 2018.



---

Posted by [Annette](#) at [12:10 PM](#)    No comments:   

Friday, November 17, 2017

## Nailing Down The Origin of atDNA Segments

Nailing down exactly which ancestors passed down our DNA segments is challenging for those of us with early America ancestry. It's not that our trees always collapse, mine never has, instead we share an ancestor, or an ancestral couple, or several ancestral couples. To overcome this hurdle it's important to collect as many 2nd and 3rd cousins' segments as possible. These segments are most likely to be IBD, identical by descent.

This week I was able to add a third cousin to chromosome 20 on my mother's chart. This segment can now be named Forgey/Roller after the most recent ancestral couple they share,

i.e. Andrew Forgey and Anna Roller.

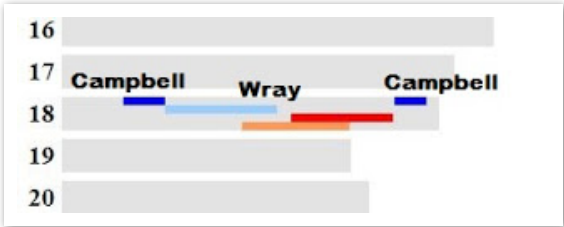


Marking my well documented known lines helps to eliminate these chromosome regions as areas associated with my brickwall lines.

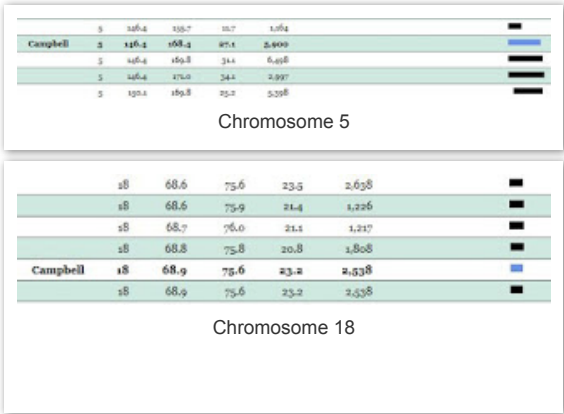
Right now I'm examining segments on chromosome 5 and 18 as possibly relating to my Campbell family brickwall. I'm looking for the names of the parents of Sarah Campbell, who married Anderson Wray 1833 Indiana, and her place of birth in Tennessee.

I've found the common ancestors for many of our predicted high quality matches at AncestryDNA. My mother and I have had a high quality match for years at Ancestry that I can't place. The fact this match has Campbell ancestors from Tennessee is a possible promising lead for my Sarah Campbell's family. Since this person recently uploaded their raw data to Family Tree DNA I've been able to compare her with others sharing segments on chromosome 5 and 18.

I've examined the trees of matches on Chromosome 5 and 18. I've determined that segments running up to the promising Campbell matches' segments on Chromosome 18 are most likely Wray family cousins. Several also share the Campbell surname, but several don't. Since they don't overlap these segments could come from different ancestors.

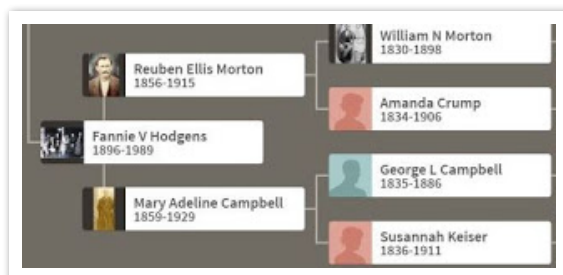


I've found more Campbell descendants who share segments on both Chromosome 5 and 18.

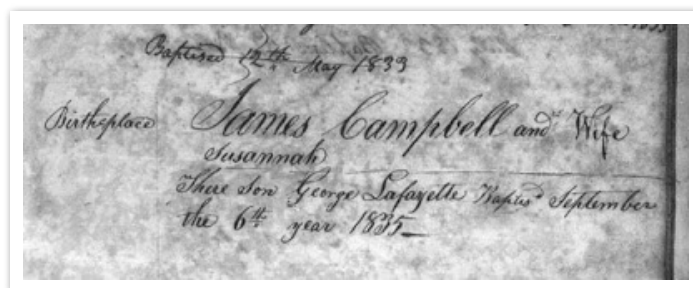


I have found trees posted for some of these matches, and I researched matches myself to build trees out as far as I could. Everyone sharing overlapping segments on ch. 5 and 18 shares the same ancestral couple. They are descendants of Reuben Ellis Morton 1856-1915, and his wife Mary A. Campbell 1859-1929, of Greene County, Tennessee. These matches are all 2nd or 3rd cousins to one another. I can't find another surname on these trees that would match with the names on my tree.

Paper trails and DNA don't always match up because there can be unknown adoptions, and affairs that no one is aware of. I have a Browning line that also traces back to Greene County, Tennessee. There would have to be some sort of unknown Browning blood relationship at the Reuben Morton and Mary Campbell generation, or before, for these segments to be Browning.



I'm doing some research in Greene County, Tennessee records to see if I can make a connection with the Campbell's in Indiana. There was a disagreement about who George Lafayette Campbell's parents are? I was able to find the documentation for his parents being James M. Campbell and Susannah. George Lafayette Campbell was baptized in the [Sinking Springs Lutheran Church in Greene County, Tennessee](#).



George Lafayette Campbell would be in the age range to be Sarah Campbell-Wray's nephew. Could his father James be her brother? Not likely since I believe she may have had a brother named James T. Campbell? Unlikely they would name two children James? It's possible James could be Sarah's cousin?

Not being completely confident that these Campbell matches actually do match us through the surname Campbell I need to find more information to confirm or eliminate this line as contributing to this DNA. If more descendants of James Campbell and Susannah match us



DNA wise that would strongly suggest Sarah Campbell-Wray's family originally came from Greene County, Tennessee. William M. Campbell is thought to be James' father. He settled in Greene County, Tennessee very early. It would be helpful if matches other than one particular line matched us. So far I can't find any other matches with trees tracing back to this family, but I will continue to check for anyone posting such a tree, or testing in the future.

I plan on continuing to search records and check DNA matches, especially on chromosomes 5 and 18, in hopes of finally solving this Campbell mystery.

Posted by **Annette** at **1:39 PM**

No comments:



Saturday, November 11, 2017

## These Are The Good Old Days of Genetic Genealogy/ And A Segment Puzzle Mystery?



As I'm going through Genome Mate Pro adding named segments to my segment map this week the differences in the size of the segments between my mother and I were so apparent. Many of the segments I share with matches are less than 20 cM's. My mother has many more segments over 20 cM's, and many over 30 cM's. She was born in 1921, whereas I was born in 1963. As the generations pass our genetic links to our immigrant and early American ancestors will not be visible in our DNA. Definitely test all older relatives first.

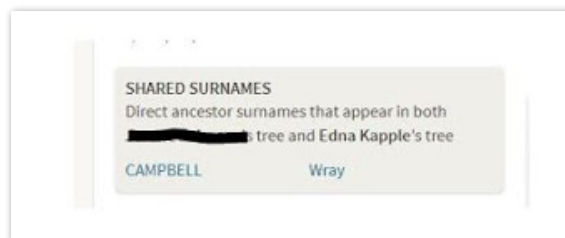
I've been mapping my segments in Genome Mate Pro. My main focus right now is on the segments shared on chromosomes 5 and 18 which relate to possible Campbell family matches. Since the only thing I know about Campbell is I have an ancestor named Sarah Campbell who married Anderson Wray in Jackson County, Indiana, possibly born in Tennessee, that's everything I know. I updated the GEDmatch data with new matches. I've been going through these segments and naming them if I can determine the ancestors they came from. This process involves using Ancestry trees. Also Googling names and email addresses to see if there is a family website.

Gedmatch is estimating the length of the segments as longer than AncestryDNA. I've filled in more of chromosome 18 adding matches besides the Campbell match. Two tested with Ancestry and overlap each other, but neither appear as shared matches. According to AncestryDNA one of these matches shares one 14.4 cM segment. GEDmatch estimates the segment is 22.4 cM's. The other match is said to share 1 segment of 12.7 cM's. According to GEDmatch the segment length is more than twice that length at 28.3 cM's. Since Ancestry doesn't share segment data there is no way to know whether their segments overlap, according to their calculations. They do overlap according to GEDmatch.

Examining the family trees of these matches I find that the two matches segments I've

added to chromosome 18 might share more than one set of ancestors with me.

These two added matches share the surnames Campbell and Wray with us. My ancestors Anderson Wray and Sarah Campbell married in 1833. On first examination it could be that these matches are also their descendants, but they aren't. Instead they are descendants of Anderson Wray's grandfather Benjamin Wray and his second wife Patsy Goode. The Campbells they descend from didn't live in Franklin County, Virginia where the Wray family lived.

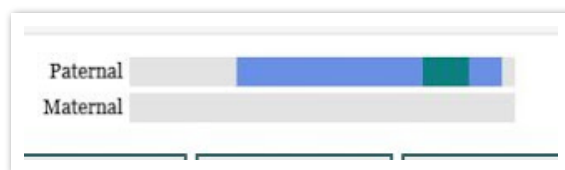


A third match also shares DNA on chromosome 18. This match overlaps substantially with one of the other matches. Since one of them tested at Family Tree DNA and the other at AncestryDNA, and only one uploaded to GEDmatch, there is no way to tell if they match each other?

What is particularly interesting about the match at Family Tree DNA is they have ancestors who lived in Iola, Kansas. Iola is a very small town. Anderson Wray migrated with some of his children to that town. He died there. According to this match she doesn't have any relationship to the Wray family? Either this is a coincidence or there was a non paternity event? If this segment on chromosome 18 came down from Benjamin Wray then an NPE is likely. On the other hand if the match relates on the Campbell line then her tree is correct.

Last week I discovered one particularly interesting Campbell matches ancestors were from Greene County, Tennessee. Sarah Campbell-Wray was said to have been born in Tennessee. The recently added matches, who tested at AncestryDNA, have Campbell ancestors from Lee County, Virginia and Hawkins County, Tennessee. All of these places are close together in Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia. My tendency is to think these segments are related to Wray and not Campbell because both share Wray ancestors?

Looking at chromosome 18 at Genome Mate Pro, after marking all of these segments, it's impossible to see where segments begin and end.



Charting the segments with [Kitty's Segment Mapper](#) we see exactly how they fit together (chart below). Not sure why there is an overlap of the blue at Genome Mate Pro? This view is very helpful. We see the Campbell match I am most interested in with segments bookending the others. I found another match who shares one of the exact segments with her. This matches has a very small tree containing no Campbell's or Wray's.

Based on this view my mother either inherited one long segment of DNA from her Great-Great Grandfather Anderson Wray, or chromosome 18 is mix from both Anderson Wray and Sarah Campbell? The book ending may suggest there is a mix of Wray and Campbell DNA on chr. 18? The Campbell match of special interest at AncestryDNA, the booking ending

match, has a fairly complete tree out to around 6 and 7 generations with no Wray's on it?



The shared matches feature at Ancestry didn't give me a clue that 3 matches had something in common, facts important to me were hidden. It would have been helpful to know they share either overlapping segments, or segments that are close together. None of these matches appear to match each other even though two descend from Benjamin Wray and Patsy Goode, and both tested at AncestryDNA? They don't show up as shared matches? They do match at GEDmatch.

Doing this analysis required quite a bit of time. No one site has everything needed to effectively analyze and compare matches. I had to go back and forth between Ancestry, Family Tree DNA, 23andMe, GEDmatch, Genome Mate Pro, and [Kitty's Segment Mapper](#). 23andMe has the best tools, but no trees. If they would add a tree feature I would recommend everyone test there.

I will continue to work with the matches on chromosome 18. I do have many more matches I need to evaluate. This kind of analysis is only possible if you have segment data. This analysis is necessary if you are comparing with distant cousins.

Posted by [Annette](#) at [11:42 AM](#)

No comments:



Saturday, November 4, 2017

## Brickwalls DNA and Privacy

### AncestryDNA Changes

Sorry to hear that [AncestryDNA](#) plans on [making changes](#) which could hamper our ability to work out how we are related to someone. A match can now choose not to show up in results, and testers will be given the option to keep shared matches private. This is a positive development for those testing for ethnicity results who don't want to hear from matches, not so positive for the rest of us..

23andMe has managed to preserve privacy while providing needed tools like the chromosome browser and shared matches.

It's sad Ancestry has chosen to focus on ethnicity results rather than helping us to resolve our brickwalls. They've chosen to focus on the least accurate portion of the DNA results. Not

providing the ability to map segments means the power of this tool will never be fully realized for their customers.

The only thing the ethnicity results can tell you with any accuracy is whether you are European, African, Middle Eastern, Native American or Asian. It can only give you vague estimates about anything more specific which actually may turn out to be completely wrong.

### Working on Brickwall using DNA

After writing last week's blog post I downloaded my DNA matches from Family Tree DNA into Genome Mate Pro. Someone asked me about the DNA segment chart I included in that blog post. I was thinking it's been a couple months since I updated that database, so I needed to do that. The Family Tree DNA database has grown so slowly that updating every few months has been enough.

After completing the update to Genome Mate Pro I noticed that the Campbell match I was referring to at AncestryDNA has now transferred to Family Tree DNA. Great for me! She has a very complete tree going back about 6 generations at Ancestry. She has no tree or surnames at FTDNA so when I've been searching by the surname Campbell her name didn't come up. She transferred her kit recently.

Why is this such good news? The only information those of us researching Sarah Campbell-Wray have is that she married Anderson Wray in 1833, in Jackson County, Indiana and died there in 1848. We have a list of her children. All but two died before the 1880 US Census, when they would have stated where they thought she was born. Polly Thurman Wray-Hall stated her mother was born in Tennessee, but my ancestor Elizabeth Wray-Forgey didn't know where she was born?

With so little information, and the fact matches would be 4th cousins to my mother, probably removed by one or two generations, the segment data is crucial to making connections with DNA. I need to have a segment map which is as complete as possible in order to eliminate the possibility that we are related on another line. I have to rely on segments to give me clues. With these clues I can do further research in the actual surviving records.

Let's examine the exact segments shared with this match. Both my mother and I share the same segments and same and number of cM's with this match.

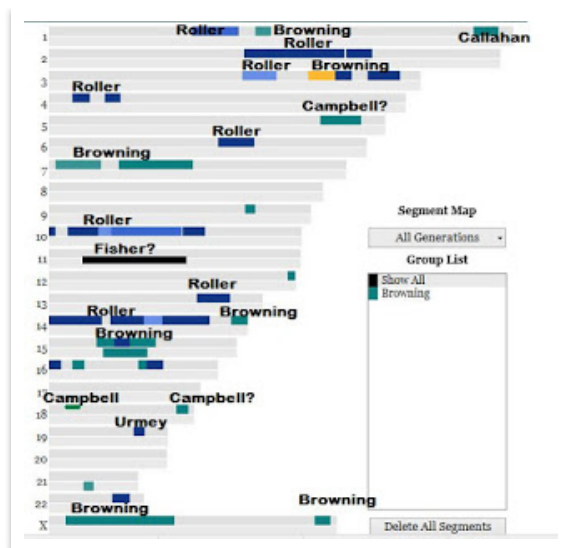
Chromosome 5, 28.05 cM's , SNP's 6100

Chromosome 18, 5.69 cM's , SNP's 1700

Chromosome 18, 22.27 cM's , SNP's 2443

We share a total of 56.01 cM's according to Family Tree DNA on 3 chromosomes. According to AncestryDNA we share 43 cM's on 3 segments.

Comparing these segments to others in the same places on the chromosomes it's looking promising that these segments do indeed relate to Campbell. They don't match up with any known Roller matches. They don't match up with any other surname segments.



Doing further comparison with shared matches at Family Tree DNA more good news! Half a dozen shared matches also have the surname Campbell listed in the surnames. As I stated before Sarah Campbell was said to have been born in Tennessee. Several of those who have Campbell listed have Georgia/Alabama ancestors. We know that there was migration heavy migration from Tennessee farther south. I was blown away when I saw two of these matches had Campbell ancestors who were from Greene County, Tennessee, which matches the place of origin of our AncestryDNA match. There was some migration from Greene County, Tennessee to Lawrence and Jackson County, Indiana. My Browning family migrated to these counties from Greene County, Tennessee.

Greene County sounds like a promising place of birth for Sarah Campbell? I will comb those records for any connections.

What I'm getting out of the DNA testing is confirmation of already well documented lines. DNA is matching the paper trail meaning there were no unknown adoptions etc. When it comes to my brickwalls more work is required. All of my brickwalls are at or beyond the 4th generation. The chances of matching a 4th cousin and beyond is far less likely. You have a 90% chance of sharing DNA with a 3rd cousin, but that drops to 50% with a 4th cousin and only 10% with a 5th cousin. Building a segment map using 2nd and 3rd cousins is the most effective way to workout those more distant matches. These large segments are more likely to be IBD, giving a firm foundation for those smaller segments.

I'm going to focus on building my segment map in hopes of narrowing down who is related on my brickwall Campbell line.



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Posted by [Annette](#) at [8:50 AM](#)    [2 comments:](#)    

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Watermark theme. Powered by [Blogger](#).

# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)
[My Pedigree Charts](#)
[Research Goals](#)

Saturday, January 6, 2018

## New Year's Resolutions for Genealogy 2018

2017 was another great year in Genealogy. I'm hoping for at least a few more solutions to brickwall lines in 2018. With many people receiving DNA test kits for the holidays there should be some interesting matches surfacing soon. Ancestry sold 1.5 million kits over Black Friday weekend.

The solution to many of my remaining brickwalls is likely to come from the FamilySearch microfilms now being digitized. I'm going to unsubscribe from Ancestry soon. I might subscribe to their trees only. All of the most useful information is now coming from FamilySearch, for my particular areas that is.

1. Something I'm still aching to have is a picture, or pictures, of my Great-Grandparents Frank Kappel and Mary Kurta.
2. We need a Y DNA study to confirm our relationship to the Maryland Browning families. My late mother and one of her 1st cousins had an interest in learning more about their Grandmother Isis Browning's family. There is quite a bit of information on this family, a study done in Indiana and several books about the family. In spite of all the research that has been done there are still gaps in our documented evidence which requires DNA to get around. Right now there is a small Y DNA Browning project for the US Brownings, and a larger one for UK Brownings.

USA Brownings from Gloucestershire			
369347	John Browning, b. 1255	United Kingdom	R-M269
324365	John Browning, 1273-1369	England	R-M269
261056		Unknown Origin	R-M269
N71242	John Browning, b.c. 1255, Bedminster, England	England	R-DF41
198328		Unknown Origin	R-M269
USA Brownings from Ireland			
241414	William Stevin, b 1825 and d 1875	Ireland	R-M269
USA Brownings from Maryland			
186829		England	R-M269
204128	Eli B. Browning, b. 1772, Maryland	England	R-M269

3. I'm visiting Indiana this Spring and hoping to find documents that will breakdown my brickwall on the Campbell line and maybe find a Browning to take the Y DNA test?
4. Find out approximately when early families arrived in America, namely the Brownings, Wrays, Morrisises, and Thurmans. A goal of my genealogy research has also been establishing when the ancestors first arrived in America. I have good evidence stating when the German ancestors arrived in America. The British Isles ancestors are much harder to nail



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2020  
Blogiversaries  
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down. I only have contemporary tax lists and other documents with dates which can be used to establish when a family was in America. There were families with my surnames in America in the 1600's, but I have not been able to establish whether we are related?

5. Prove English ancestry. I've always hoped to find some English ancestry. I do have Scottish ancestry, but have no proven English ancestry. It does look like Browning is English. The Y DNA test could confirm that?

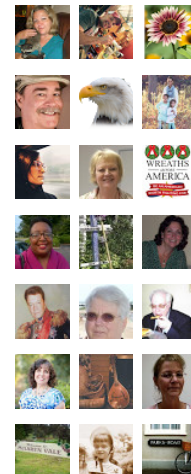
I had thought the Melvins and Reddons on my father's side might have been English, but many have posted that evidence points to Scottish origins. I'm not sure about Hicks? Since the Hicks family originally settled on the frontier in North Carolina they could also have Scottish origins?



I've toured England twice and really love it.



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► **May** (1)

► **April** (1)

► **March** (2)

► **February** (1)

► **January** (1)

► **2019** (16)

► **2018** (22)

► **2017** (31)



6. A Del Castillo Y DNA study would be great also.

7. I need to get up to speed on the BigY this year. I haven't analyzed those results enough.

I've whittled down my brickwall list over the years. If I could get a few more solved that would be wonderful!

Posted by **Annette** at **11:47 AM**    **No comments:** 

- **2016** (24)
- **2015** (30)
- **2014** (53)
- **2013** (59)
- **2012** (76)
- **2011** (94)

## About Me



**Annette**

[View my complete profile](#)

## Feedjit

Saturday, December 30, 2017

## Maryland Sources

Here are some of the sources I've used the most for Maryland lately. I'm not currently subscribing to the US version of Ancestry right now. I'm currently using the Canadian version. Ancestry does have a number of books relating to Maryland genealogy. You can search for names without subscribing. If you live near Los Angeles the Central Library has many Maryland genealogy books. Some of Amazon's Maryland genealogy books can be searched for names before you buy.

The microfilms being digitized for Maryland are really outstanding sources of information. Some of the digitized microfilms are only available to search at a Family History Center or Library. Others are viewable anywhere. Most of the probate records aren't locked, and can be viewed anywhere.

The Maryland Archives website is outstanding too. Unfortunately not everything is thoroughly indexed. The volumes of information would take years to read through. If you live in Maryland there are better indexes in person.

### Maryland Genealogy links

[FamilySearch digitized Microfilms](#)

[FamilySearch digitized Probate Records by County](#)

[Archives of Maryland Online](#)

[Maryland County formation Ani Map](#)

[Maryland records, colonial, revolutionary, county and church : from original sources Vol. I](#)

[Maryland records, colonial, revolutionary, county and church : from original sources Vol II](#)

[The New Early Settlers of Maryland by Dr. Carson Gibb](#)

[Maryland Marriage Evidences, 1634-1718](#)

[1783 Tax Assessment](#)

[Maryland land Records](#)

To search early land records at this site, sign up for free account. Click on the county of interest from the drop down menu, then click plat.net link. Use the advanced search to search by name in the description field. Or you can click links below to browse the records.

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- **Certificates, Patented, CE, S1194**, 1704-1971
- **Certificates, Unpatented, CE, S1217**, 1675-1867
- **Condemnation Record, C2799**, 1925-1933
- **Division Plats, SE34**, 1724-1920
- **Land Acquisition Plat Book, C2806**, 1956-1958

[Maryland Indexes Maryland Marriage References by Robert Barnes](#)

[Abstracts of the Testamentary Proceedings of the Prerogative Court of Maryland 1682-1696](#)

[Abstracts of the Testamentary Proceedings of the Prerogative Court of Maryland 1686-1689, 1692-1693](#)

[Abstracts of the Testamentary Proceedings of the Prerogative Court of Maryland 1693-1697](#)

[Abstracts of the Testamentary Proceedings of the Prerogative S 1703-1704, 1708-1709](#)  
[Early Families of Southern Maryland: Volume 7](#)

[1783 tax list of Maryland, vol. 1](#)

[Maryland marriage records by Annie Walker Burns](#)

[Colonial Families of Maryland: Bound and Determined to Succeed](#)



[Maryland Books at Archive.org](#)

[Chronicles of colonial Maryland, with illustrations](#)

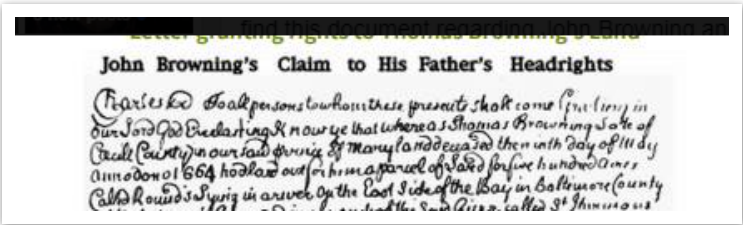
Posted by Annette at 3:10 PM

No comments:

Friday, December 29, 2017

# My Genealogy Year in Review 2017

From old favorite genealogy related TV shows to DNA, and the ever expanding amount of information available on the internet 2017 has been a great year in genealogy. I have to say the bulk of new information I'm getting is from the digitizing of he Family History Library microfilms. I've exhausted most of what Ancestry has to offer, but I am continuing to find documents submitted by users attached to trees. The user submitted documents and photos are the real draw for me at Ancestry.



*Finding Your Roots*, the UK and American versions of *Who Do You Think You Are*, and *Relative Race* all had new episodes airing this year. I watched them all. I caught the UK WDYTYA series on YouTube, always trying to stay ahead of the copyright removals.

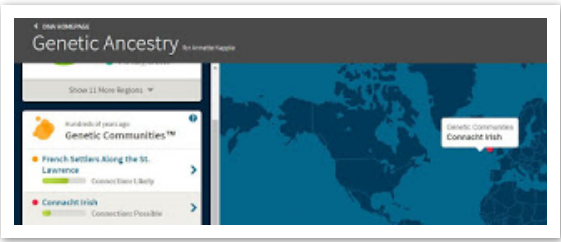
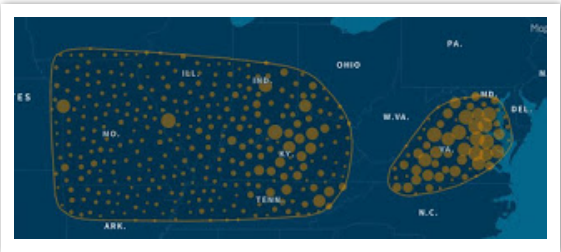
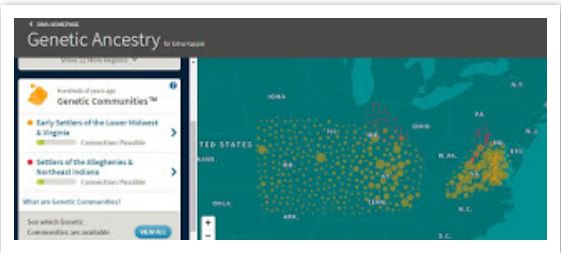
The Forgey DNA project now has two men in the BigY this year. at Family Tree DNA. We now have our own unique SNP I-BY 19896. only belonging to Forgeys so far. I was disappointed by the STR results from YFull. Not really finding that information useful. The SNP's are useful. I'll write more about that in the new year.

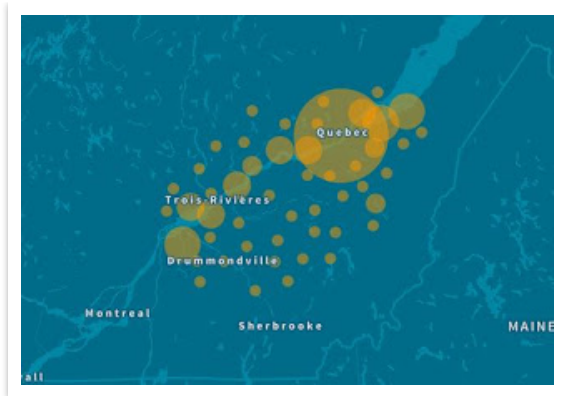
MRCA branch	TMRCA CI 95% ybp	Most distant ancestor	Country of origin
I-BY19896	300 (750,125)	Andrew Forgey b. 1732, Ireland and d. 1809, Tennessee, USA	
I-BY3819	800 (1100,500)	William Angus D Ferguson b. 29 Aug 1877 Thurso Caithness	Scotland
I-BY3819	800 (1100,500)	Joseph FERGUSON b. ~1800 of Drumbrawn, parish of Annagh, County Cavan	Ireland
I-BY3819	800 (1100,500)	John FERGUSON b. 1812	Scotland
I-BY3819	800 (1100,500)	James FERGUSSON married Margaret MCILWRICK 17 Mar 1718 Dailly, Ayrshire	Scotland
I-BY3819	800 (1100,500)		
I-BY3819	800 (1100,500)	Adam FERGUSON, b. ~1650-1655 Scotland or Ireland, d. 1714 Craven County, NC, USA	Scotland

I'm very excited that some Brower men have Y tested their DNA and are now in the Brewer/Brower project at Family Tree DNA.

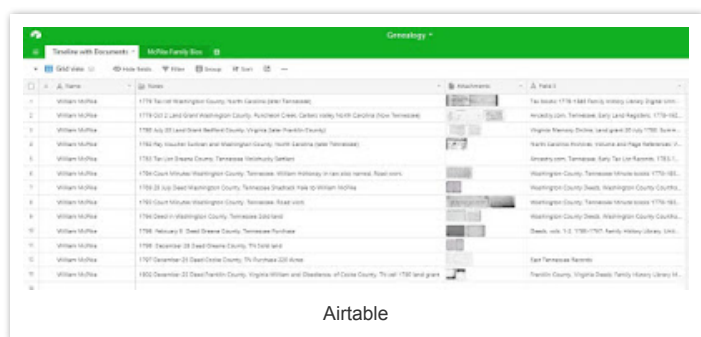
156740	Brower	ArthurBrowerB.1765PittCo.NC>ArchibaldBrowerB.-1795	United States	J-CTS6804	12	23	14	10	13-1
Hubert Brower, Immigrant to Philadelphia 1726									
612233	Brower	Hubert Brower	Unknown Origin	R-M269	13	24	14	11	11-1
67624	Brower	Leander Brower b1808 RandolphCoNC d HendersonCoTN	Unknown Origin	R-M269	13	24	14	11	11-1
67877	Brower	Jacob Brower, b.1812 Randolph Co. NC., d. 1881 MO	Germany	R-M269	13	24	14	11	11-1
524302	Brower	Henry Brower, d. 1799	United States	R-M269	13	24	14	11	11-1
197800	Brower	Henry Brower/Henrich Brauer of Bedford, PA d.1799	Unknown Origin	R-M269	13	24	14	11	11-1
82980	Brower	Leander Brower b NC, d.BET1854-60 Henderson Co.TN	Unknown Origin	R-CTS3555	13	24	14	11	11-1
554763	Brower	Johannes John Brower, b. 1715 and d. 1777	Germany	R-M269	13	24	14	11	11-1
JACOB BREWER									

A new feature was added to AncestryDNA called Genetic Communities. An explanation from AncestryDNA: "Now you can discover specific groups of people you're related to through your DNA, the places they called home, and the migration paths they followed to get there. With more than 300 Genetic Communities, now in beta, you could discover a more specific and fuller picture of your ethnic, geographic, and cultural origins. All from your DNA." I found it somewhat interesting. It would be more interesting if it could be expanded to represent more of our ancestry. A record number of DNA kits were sold during the holidays. Hopefully that will provide enough data to expand the limited communities.

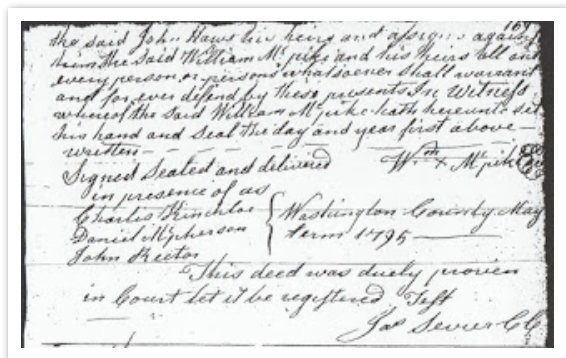




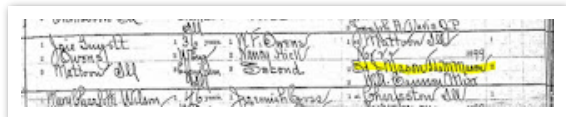
I learned more about the uses of **Airtable** for genealogy during a Second Life genealogy presentation.



I visited Tennessee again this year. I collected more family documents during my trip that haven't been digitized or indexed yet.

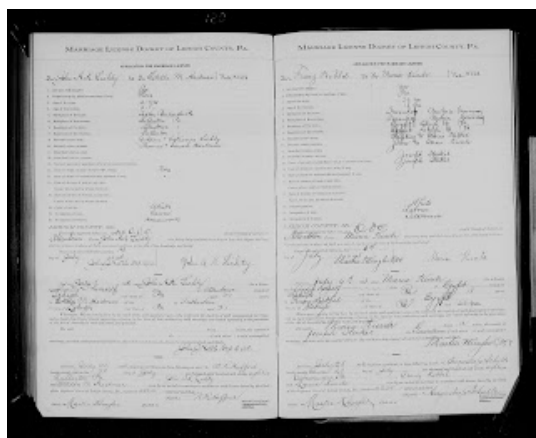


One of my **best finds of the year** was getting a copy of the actual marriage book entry for a great-great Aunt Josie Owens. I had a transcribed copy which was produced when I wrote for a copy. I wanted an original copy but the clerk refused to send a copy of the original stating the book was too fragile. Now I have a copy of the original entry thanks to Familysearch. This entry proves that W.F. Owens and Nancy Hicks are our ancestors, plus confirming the Owens family in the Effingham, Illinois Census is one and the same.



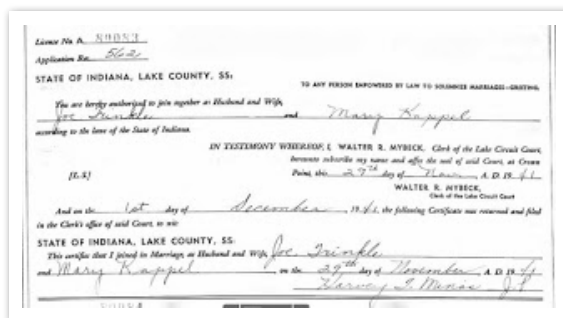
Another of my best finds of the year was a marriage license for my Great-Grandparents Frank Kappel and Mary Kurta. I got the copy from Familysearch's digitized indexed marriage microfilms. I tried calling Catholic Churches in the area where they lived when they married,

but was never successful in getting a copy. From the license I learned that my great-grandmother worked in a silk weaving mill.



Marriage license of my great-grandparents Frank Kappel and Mary Kurta

I was able to collect up even more vital records certificates on online. I confirmed my great-grandmother remarried after my great-grandfather died. She married a Joe Trinkle.



Nancy Hicks brother's death certificate also provided some useful information.

[illegible]

I discovered possible relatives of my Sarah Campbell were from East Tennessee. Sarah's children knew she was from Tennessee, but not specifically East Tennessee.



Date of Birth Sept 20 1890  
Month Day Year

Age 62 years 4 months 20 days

Occupation House Domestic

Birthplace East Tennessee  
(State or Country)

Place of Death Jackson T B H. C.

Name of Father do not know

Birthplace of Father Louisville  
(State or Country)

Maiden Name of Mother Campbell

Birthplace of Mother  
(State or Country)

I also found the marriage license for my Grandparents Rudolph Kapple and Dorothy Mason online at Familysearch.

17-00000

Canton No. 10022  
Application No. 803

STATE OF INDIANA, LAKE COUNTY, SS:

TO ANY PERSON EMPLOYED BY LAW TO COLLECTOR MARRIAGES-SENTENCE.

I am hereby authorized to join together as Husband and Wife  
Madison J. Kappeler and Wootley Mason  
according to the laws of the State of Indiana.

BY TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, JOHN WILLIAMSON, Clerk of the Lake Circuit Court,  
UNNEDLY acknowledge my name and after the said act and Court, at  
Osnab, Penn. this day of SEPTEMBER, A. D. 1918.

I, JOHN WILLIAMSON,  
Clerk of the Lake Circuit Court,  
do hereby certify that the following Certificate was returned and filed  
in the Clerk's office of said Court, to wit:

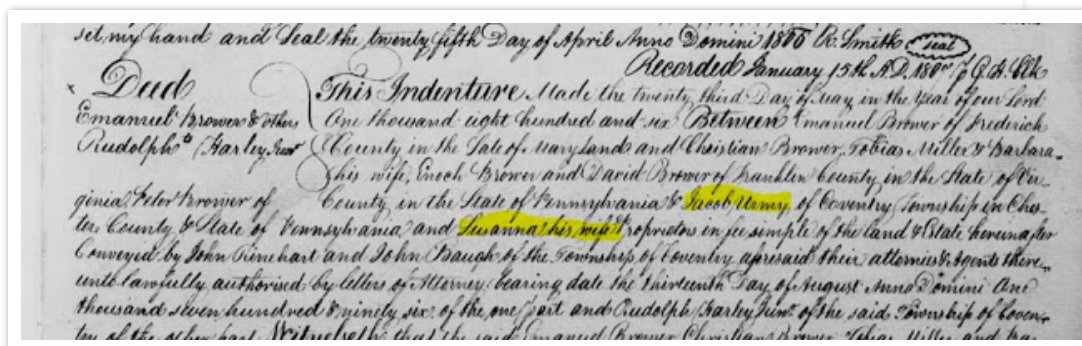
STATE OF INDIANA, LAKE COUNTY, SS:

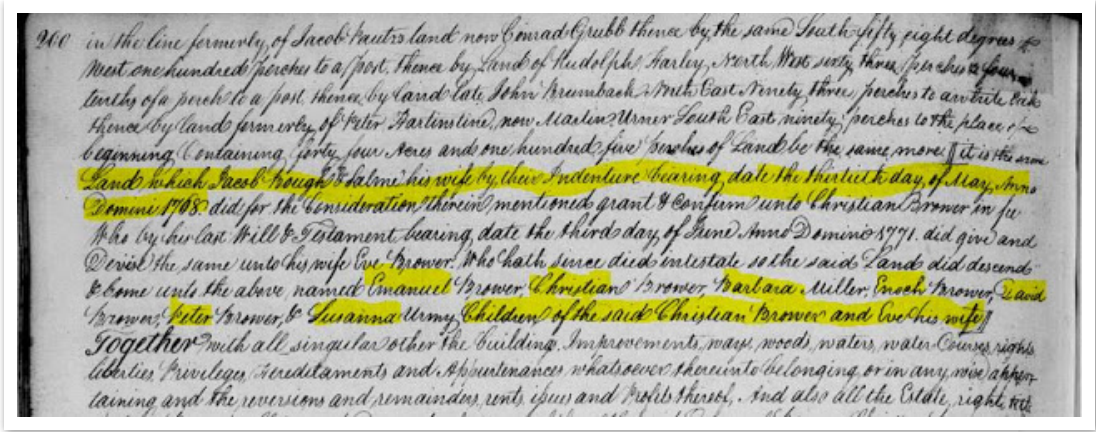
This gentleman that I joined as Husband and Wife,  
and Wootley Mason on the 17 day of September, 1918  
Arthur H. Boyer (H)

I learned some new details about the life of my Great-Uncle Frank Mason from an online marriage record at Familysearch. I also had a couple his descendants match me at AncestryDNA this year.

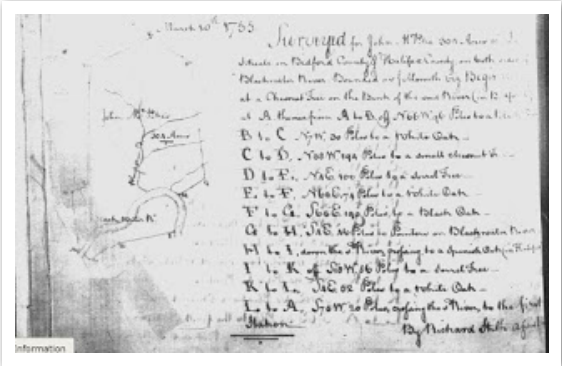
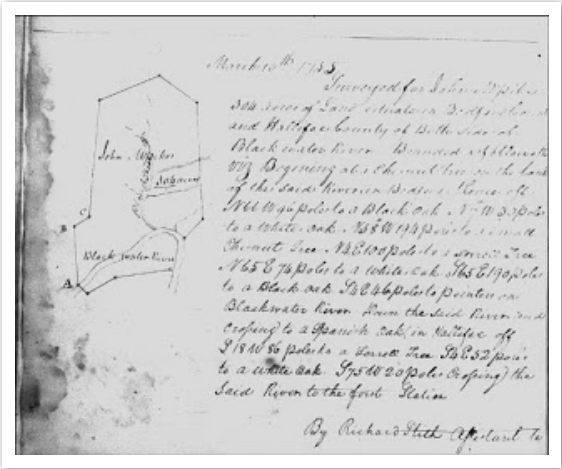
FBI STATE		FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION		PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS		Date Registered In	
FUGITIVE		WANTED		MARRIAGE		1949	
NAME	Frank K. Mearns	NAME	Margaret Jean Newcomer	BRIDE			
ALIAS	White	ALIAS	White				
DATE OF BIRTH	1914	DATE OF BIRTH	1914				
AGE	30	AGE	30				
HEIGHT	5' 10"	HEIGHT	5' 10"				
WEIGHT	150	WEIGHT	150				
HAIR	Light	HAIR	Light				
EYES	Blue	EYES	Blue				
SKIN	Fair	SKIN	Fair				
EDUCATION	High School	EDUCATION	High School				
RELIGION	Catholic	RELIGION	Catholic				
PROFESSION	Food	PROFESSION	Food				
RESIDENCE	Chicago, Ill.	RESIDENCE	Chicago, Ill.				
DATE OF MARRIAGE	1949	DATE OF MARRIAGE	1949				
PLACE OF MARRIAGE	Chicago, Ill.	PLACE OF MARRIAGE	Chicago, Ill.				
DATE OF DEATH		DATE OF DEATH					
CAUSE OF DEATH		CAUSE OF DEATH					
DATE OF BURIAL		DATE OF BURIAL					
PLACE OF BURIAL		PLACE OF BURIAL					
DATE OF CREMATION		DATE OF CREMATION					
PLACE OF CREMATION		PLACE OF CREMATION					
DATE OF INTERMENT		DATE OF INTERMENT					
PLACE OF INTERMENT		PLACE OF INTERMENT					
DATE OF EXHUMATION		DATE OF EXHUMATION					
PLACE OF EXHUMATION		PLACE OF EXHUMATION					
DATE OF REINTERMENT		DATE OF REINTERMENT					
PLACE OF REINTERMENT		PLACE OF REINTERMENT					
DATE OF REINTERMENT		DATE OF REINTERMENT					
PLACE OF REINTERMENT		PLACE OF REINTERMENT					

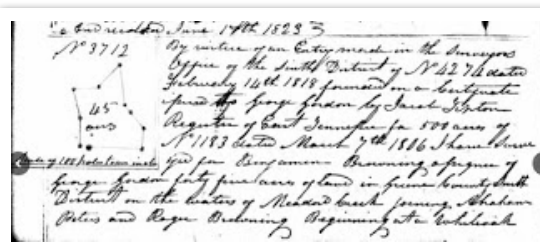
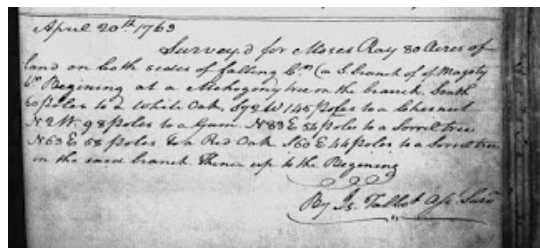
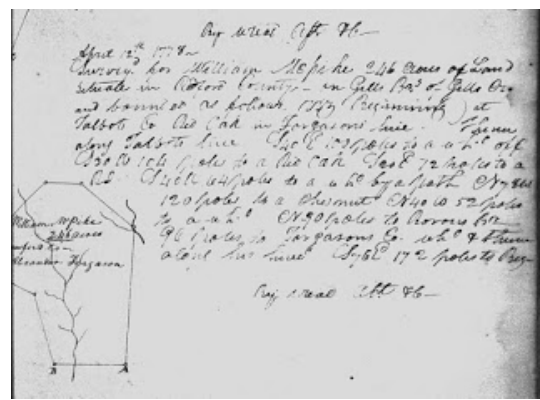
Land records at Familysearch produced some important breakthroughs this year. The deed below named all of the children of Christian Brower and Eve, providing me with documentation for my ancestors Jacob Urmy and Susanna Brower.





I found someone I didn't even know about, namely the father of my ancestor William McPike, in land records. This ancestor doesn't appear on any other records. He only appears on one land grant and a survey. I also found surveys for other ancestors in Virginia and Tennessee also.





Land record microfilms at Familysearch also gave me the first lead on breaking down a Campbell line brickwall. The first new lead in years. There was a James T. Campbell living near the Wray family my Sarah Campbell married into. He also sold property to the Wray family. I'm still trying to prove a relationship between Sarah Campbell and John Trigg Campbell.

Tree	Loc.	Size	Age	Height	DBH	Weight	Notes
1	Clark's Forest	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft
2	Clark's Forest	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft
3	Clark's Forest	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft
4	Clark's Forest	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft
5	Clark's Forest	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft
6	Clark's Forest	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft
7	Clark's Forest	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft
8	Clark's Forest	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft
9	Clark's Forest	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft
10	Clark's Forest	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft	100 ft

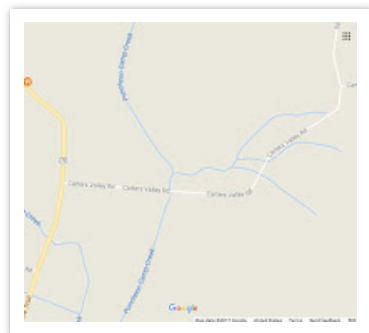
*Decr 1894*

This Indenture, made and entered into this 1st day of October A.D. 1894 between Mr. Harrison of the County of the County of Jackson State of Indiana of the one part and James Dugg Campbell of the State of Indiana of the other part Witnesseth That the said Joseph and I are for the consideration of fifty dollars to him in hand paid by the receipt whereof he doth hereby acknowledge & that this day being 20<sup>th</sup> Sept and being so by those present above long and lawfully doing as the above named Mr. Harrison the certain parcel or lot of land vizt. The N W fourth of the S E quarter of Section No 28 in Township 26 S Range No 2 East containing forty acres the same being and lying upon or near Jackson Creek in the County of Jackson State of Ind.

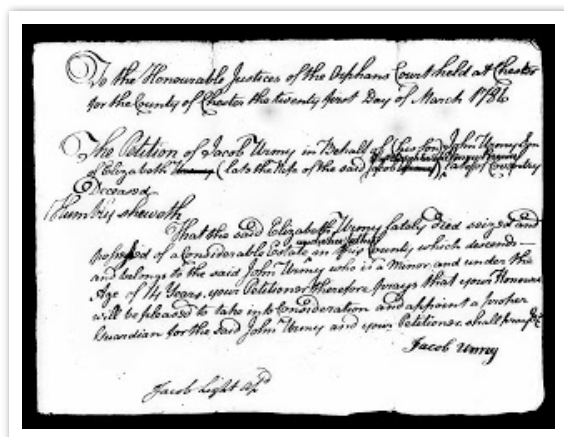
[illegible]

I was able to pinpoint where my ancestor William McPike's land was located from North Carolina land grant info online.

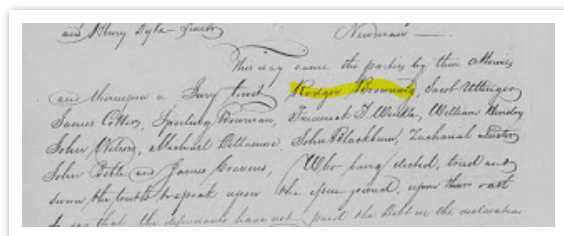
Land Grant Information	
Acres:	200
Grant No:	1758
Issued:	Dec. 2, 1796
Surveyed:	
Warrant No:	Entry No: 1791
Entered:	Oct. 2, 1779
Book No:	91
Page No:	270
Location:	In Punching Camp Creek
Remarks:	



I was able to document the fact my Jacob Urmey's first wife was Elizabeth Brower through newly digitized microfilms at Familysearch.



More court records and jury lists online at Familysearch allowed me to establish who was where and when.



I used tax lists again this year to establish where ancestors lived, and their approximate ages. More tax lists are now online due to the digitization of Family History Library microfilms.



Seall, Alexander	Harrison, Joshua
Seall, John	Harrison, Josias Sr.
Browning, Basil	Harrison, Nathan
Browning, Archibald	Hall, Joseph
Browning, Benjamin	Harvey (a Free Negro)
Browning, Edward Sr.	Harvey, Allen
Browning, Jonathan Jr.	Harvey, Charles
Browning, Jonathan Sr.	Harvey, William Jr.
Browning, Nathan Jr.	Harvey, William Sr.
Browning, Nathan Sr.	Hilliard, Thomas
Bayan, Dennis	Hobbs, Charles
Basy, Charles	
Basy, Paul	

*BROWER, Christian Brower*

1735 A- Vincent  
 1735/36- Vincent  
 1740- Vincent  
 1751- Coventry  
 1754- Coventry  
 1756 A- Coventry  
 1758 B- Coventry  
 1758 A- Coventry

Mr. Cotton	2 0	John Bowman
Mordecai Roberts	2 0	John David
Christian Brower	1 9	Joseph Williams
James Pugh	1 0	David Bowen
David Roth	1 6	Peter Paul
J. C. Holman	1 9	J. C. Paul
Frederick Miller	2 0	John Williams
Charles Camp	1 6	Samuel Bowen
George Henry	1 9	Samuel Spence
Robert Turner	2 0	Christopher Wacker
David Evans	1 0	Andrew Sisson
Geo. R. Co	1 9	Jacob Hurd
James Clark	2 0	Jos. Rogers
Sam Rood	2 0	Edward Hunt
James Cox	1 6	John Dugan
William Hine	1 9	

I got a discounted price on a copy of Hubert Brower's travel pass. He emigrated from Germany to America in 1724 with his family.

31

*Hubert Brower's travel pass*

Hubert Brower, born in Germany, has been in the service of the British Government for many years. He is now in the service of the British Government in the capacity of a private secretary to the Secretary of State. He is now in the service of the British Government in the capacity of a private secretary to the Secretary of State. He is now in the service of the British Government in the capacity of a private secretary to the Secretary of State.

I discovered an 1823 Court Case for Nathan Browning.



Come now the parties, and  
 the issue being made up, come a jury was  
 Arnold Heister, Hammett, Head, & Joseph Ha-  
 ge, John Elmer, & William Dennis, James  
 Little, William Bonney, Isaac Rich, Daniel  
 Gille, Constantine Connely, John Roberts &  
 John Skoda, twelve good and lawful  
 men and householders, of the County of  
 Lawrence who being duly sworn and  
 sworn well and truly to say this issue.

joined after hearing the testimony and  
argument of counsel. Upon their oath do say  
that the jury find the defendant guilty of  
a fraud and app<sup>o</sup> plaintiffs damages at  
forty dollars.

It is therefore considered by the Court  
now here, that plaintiffs recovery of said  
defendant the sum of forty dollars in  
damages, the sum of said in said  
said of the jury of the jury aforesaid, to  
with all his costs and charges, by him  
in his said suit in this behalf expend-  
ed, and the defendant in money to

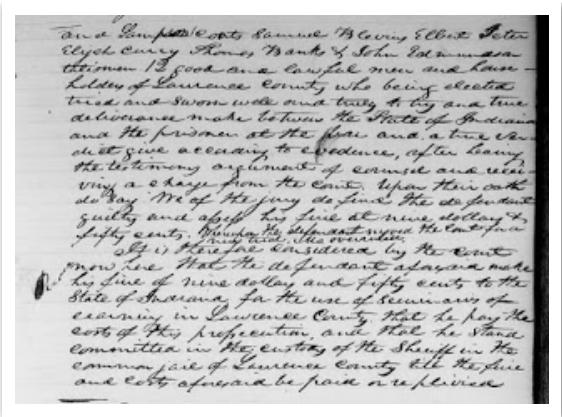
It is ordered by the Court now here, that  
the Clerk and Sheriff of Lawrence County be  
leave the sum of \$100 each, for extra  
services, during the last year.

It is ordered by the Court, now here that the  
Sheriff be paid to the satisfaction of this Court  
be allowed the sum of two dollars and twenty  
five cents, and the Clerk certify the same to  
the Commissioners of Lawrence County.

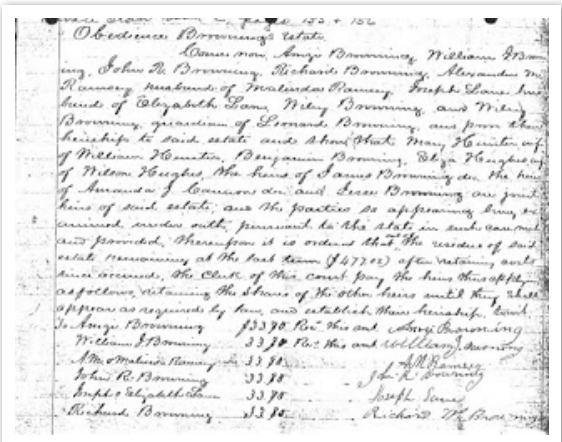
Ordered that Court adjourn till  
the morrow at half past 9 O'Clock AM.  
Signed the 11th day of September 1820  
M. W. Cook

I also found Nathan Browning in Court in 1824. He was guilty of fraud, but seems to have cleaned up his act and remained out of court for many years after that, until his death.

The State of Indiana } Trial H.B. on R. Books  
 Nathan Brownings }  
 Comes now here, the Attorney prosecuting the  
 piece of the State of Indiana in this behalf and  
 says, the defendant in his proper person, who being  
 arraigned for plea says he is not guilty, as charged  
 in the indictment, and for his trial puts himself  
 upon the country and the Attorney for the State with  
 the like then comes a jury to wit, John Hooper of  
 near Thomas Hill, Martin Weaver Isaac Menden  
 John Henry William Edwards of the region friends



Finally got a copy of Nathan and Obedience McPike's probate records, Also from Familysearch.



Old obituaries are also showing up at Familysearch. I found this Browning obit which provided the year of the family migrated from Tennessee to Indiana.

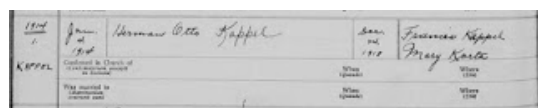


I found the burial information for my Great-Grandparents posted online.

LAST NAME			
KAPPEL			
FIRST NAME			
Frank			
GR.	LOT	BLK.	SEC.
90		1	1
HOME ADDRESS			
11321 Forest Ave.			
INTERMENT DATE		AGE	
7-9-1937		67	
Zimmermann			
FORM 2 REV. 8/53 W			

LAST NAME		#56683	
KAPPEL-TRINKLE			
FIRST NAME			
Mary			
GR.	LOT	BLK.	SEC.
88		4	J
HOME ADDRESS			
10350 Wentworth Ave.			
INTERMENT DATE		AGE	
8-10-57		77	
COONEY MORTUARY			
FORM 2			
REV. 5/55 W			

Church records and bible records proved helpful to me this year too. More are coming online all the time. Many of these can be found at Familysearch also.

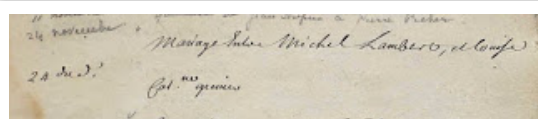
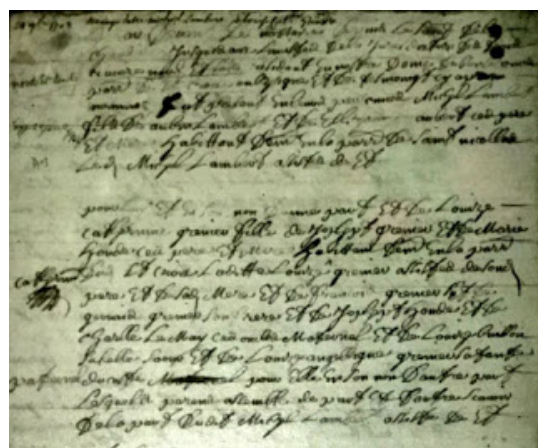


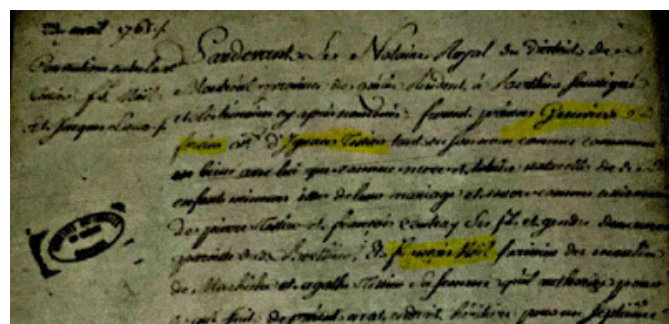
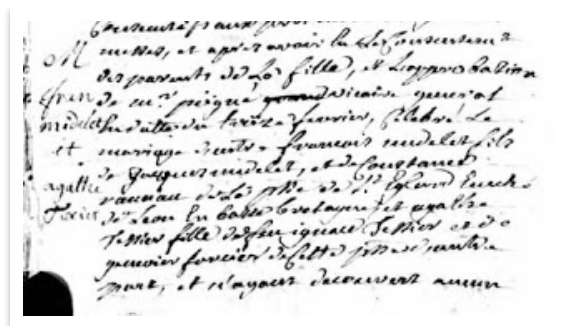
Baptism record for Herman Kappel in Chicago Catholic Church



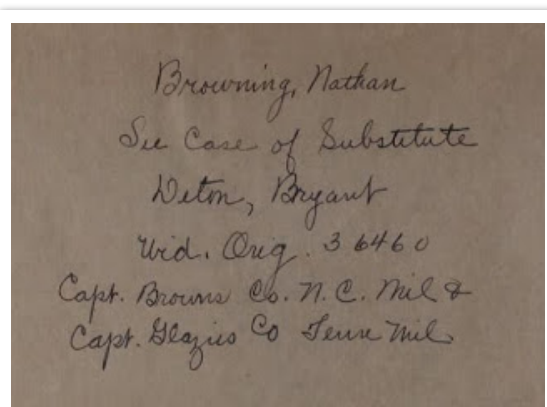
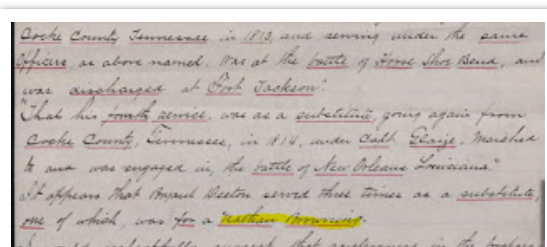
McPike Bible record

Quebec notarial records filled some gaps in my French Canadian ancestry. These records haven't been digitized by Familysearch yet. Luckily I was able to order these records on microfilm before the Family History library stopped loaning microfilms.





I rediscovered who my ancestor that hired a substitute to fight in the War of 1812 was. I was thinking it was William McPike. It was actually Nathan Browning.



I found out more tidbits about my ancestor Nicasio Del Castillo of Nicaragua. I found the info in books available online. Many books are now available online and have been a great source of information this year. You can take search inside many Amazon books before buying. Or you can read books at [Archive.org](https://archive.org) and Google books available for free.

testación, que era al Gobierno a quien incumbía esta clase de tratados.

En Masaya instaló su Gabinete el Presidente Estrada con los Ministros Doctor Barberena y don N. del Castillo, quienes se habían escapado de Granada, acampando allí también el ejército con su General en Jefe.



By supreme order I certify, in solemn form, and in a manner which deserves credit, that the communications from San Juan del Norte to this city have permanently been obstructed from the month of June last, inclusive, to the 16th of this month, in consequence of the intermediate points having been occupied by revolutionary forces.

And in virtue of the preceding memorial I have caused this certificate to be drawn up and signed with my own hand in Granada, the 27th of December, 1854.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs:

NICACIO DEL CASTILLO.

I think I covered most of the highlights of the genealogy year. It's been such a full year I might have forgotten a few things?

Wishing everyone success in their research in 2018!

---

Posted by [Annette](#) at [2:33 PM](#)

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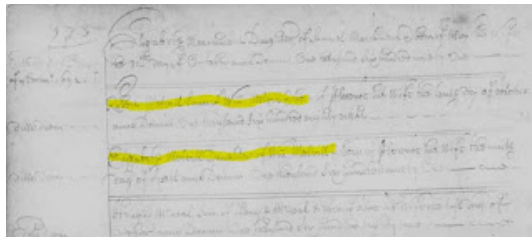
# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)[My Pedigree Charts](#)[Research Goals](#)

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

## Can You Determine Where Someone Is From Based On Surname?



The surname Melvin is recorded as Molville in 1690's Maryland. In Scotland Melvin was a variant of Melville

I've been trying to establish where my American ancestors migrated to the colonies from? Most of those coming to America from the British Isles during the colonial era left no trace of their exact origins. They could have come from England, Wales, or Ireland? Those coming from Germanic areas are a bit easier to nail down since they were not British citizens and had to account for their origins in court, and sometimes came with a travel pass from the area they migrated from. Surnames can be a clue to origins, but as I explain below they can be misleading.

Some people wanting to know their origins in the old country have purchased surname histories. Some of these turn out to be accurate when backed up with research on your family. In many cases they do not reflect the actual place your ancestors came from. Doing research using documents is the best way to confirm a families origins.

Using sites with surname information can be a good start when you know nothing about the possible origins of a surname. Here are a few sites and books with such information:

- [The House of Names](#) presents mainly the most common origins of a surname. You need to have the old world spelling of your surname otherwise the information may be wrong for your family. The immigration information they present tends to be accurate, but doesn't provide information about everyone with that surname who came to America or Canada.
- [Surname Database](#) has the most accurate origins as far as my own names go. They give more possibilities regarding origin.



Search This  
Blog

## My Blog List



**Arlene Eakle's  
Tennessee Blog**  
Tennessee  
Ancestors—Mostly  
Military Evidence  
Found in Early  
Land Claims  
1 week ago



**Geneabloggers**  
Happy October  
2020  
Blogiversaries  
2 weeks ago

## Followers

- [Ancestry.com](#) provides some information about where surnames could be found in the more recent past. If your ancestors migrated to America after the mid 19th Century this information would be useful. The 1891 Census was used for the British Isles statistics. In some cases the places where the name was common does reflect earlier places of origin for the surname. There was so much migration within the British Isles, however, in most cases it's impossible to narrow down where your ancestors may have come from.
- [Geneanet](#) provides a map with a slider at the bottom. The slider allows you to see where a surname can be found over time. You can adjust the slider to approximately when your ancestor came to America.
- [Patronymica Britannica \(1860\)](#) is a book of British names.
- [Varieties and synonymes of surnames and christian names in Ireland](#) My very favorite Irish surname book.
- [German-American Names By George Fenwick Jones](#)
- [The Scottish Surnames of Colonial America By David Dobson](#)
- [Dictionary of American Family Names](#)

### Some challenges in determining the origin of surnames

If you would like to know where in the British Isles your ancestors hailed from you would need more than just a surname. Your ancestor with an English surname may have come from England, Scotland, or Ireland. Your Scottish or Irish ancestors with English surnames may have English roots, or came by that name in another way such as anglicizing their Gaelic surname.

The plantation of Ireland with Scottish and English colonists in the early 1600's resulted their surnames now appearing in Ireland. The Union of Scotland and England also resulted in more English migration to Scotland.

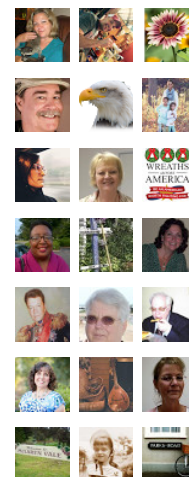
I believe the number of Scots and Scots-Irish who settled in America is underestimated. Surnames have been used to determine the percentage of Scots-Irish in America. Surnames can be deceiving and the Scots and Scots-Irish could have anglicized surnames.

Many people who immigrated to the US decided to anglicize their names. Some Ashkenazi Jews translated their names from German to English. The German name Sommer could have been translated to Summer. This name can also be an English surname.

Your ancestors with Germanic names could be from anywhere in the former Austro-Hungarian Empire. Especially if they came to America after the mid 19th century.



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► August (1)

► July (1)

► June (2)

► May (1)

► April (1)

► March (2)

► February (1)

► January (1)

► 2019 (16)

► 2018 (22)

► 2017 (31)

The British also had an Empire which colonists may have migrated from. Some British ancestors may have migrated to America from Jamaica. They may have some African heritage due to that.

Changes in spelling can throw the search for origins off too. The spelling of my surname was changed by my grandmother from Kappel, to Kapple. In the old country it was spelled Koppel. My paternal Grandmother's surname Mason sounds like the family has British Isles origins. The name was originally Masson, and French in origin.

You really need to research your ancestry if you want to know where your ancestors migrated from. A person with the name Brower could be English or German. My Brower ancestors settled in German areas of Pennsylvania, hinting that they were ethnic Germans. The first names they used were also Germanic such as Ludwig. Another tip off to German ancestry would be that they were Lutherans or belonged to another religion common in Germanic Europe.

I had Colonial American ancestors named Callahan. Even though this family had Irish roots they also had Scots-Irish. or English roots. also as hinted by their Protestant religion and early migration.

I've found places of origin in the old country appearing in county histories. More recent immigrants often appear on passenger lists, and applied for Naturalization. Those documents often provide specific places of origin. In the case of Colonial ancestors it's often impossible to determine an exact place or origin.

Although if you have a very rare surname you may be able to more easily find the place of origin. The surname Huane is a very uncommon Irish surname. It's mostly found in a small area of Co. Mayo. We know it originated in the Irishtown area of Mayo. Searching the name will bring up information for the family in Mayo, but it also can bring up Chinese surname results.

Y DNA tests can also narrow down the place of origin for a surname. Our Forgey surname was thought to be possibly French or Scottish? DNA testing is pointing to it being a Scottish variant of Ferguson. Most of our Y matches are either Fergusons, or have Scottish roots.

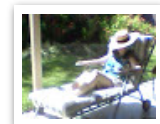
You can never make assumptions based on a surname alone. Beginning with a surname search is a good start, but only provides hints to origins.

Posted by **Annette** at **5:59 PM**

No comments: 

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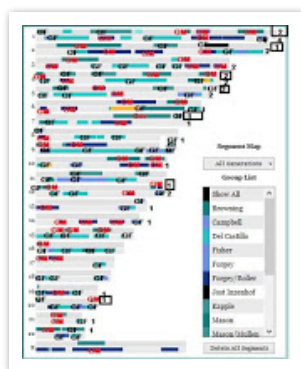
# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)      [My Pedigree Charts](#)      [Research Goals](#)

Monday, March 5, 2018

# RootsTech Living DNA and MyHeritage/36 Recombinations?



I watched RootsTech livestream. I bought a **Living DNA** kit after hearing their presentation. I was surprised the kit came only 2 days later. That was fast! I'm mailing the kit today March 4, 2018. I'm hoping I swabbed correctly? It said swab twice, but there was only one swab included? I'll review their results here on my blog when I get the results.

The MyHeritage DNA 101: From Test to Results presentation at Rootstech was very interesting. The presenter said there are 36 recombination events per paternal and maternal sides of the 22 chromosomes; when our parents pass down their parents DNA to us. So if the first segment on a chromosome was given to you by a parent, which they got from their father, for instance, then a recombination event occurs and we switch to a segment from your parent's mother on the same chromosome. Another recombination can occur switching back to your parent's father's DNA.

I decided to count the recombination events representing the grandparents segments my parents passed down to me. I'm just curious if my segment attributions are correct? Recombination occurs an average of 1.5 times per chromosome according to the MyHeritage presenter. I found 4 recombination events on chromosome 1 on my maternal side. I may need to reexamine my matches on chromosome 1 on my maternal side? I still have many missing segments so I don't know how many recombination events have occurred? I'm thinking since an average of 1.5 recombination events occur per chromosome many of the smaller segments will be extended to fill out the chromosomes completely. I marked my



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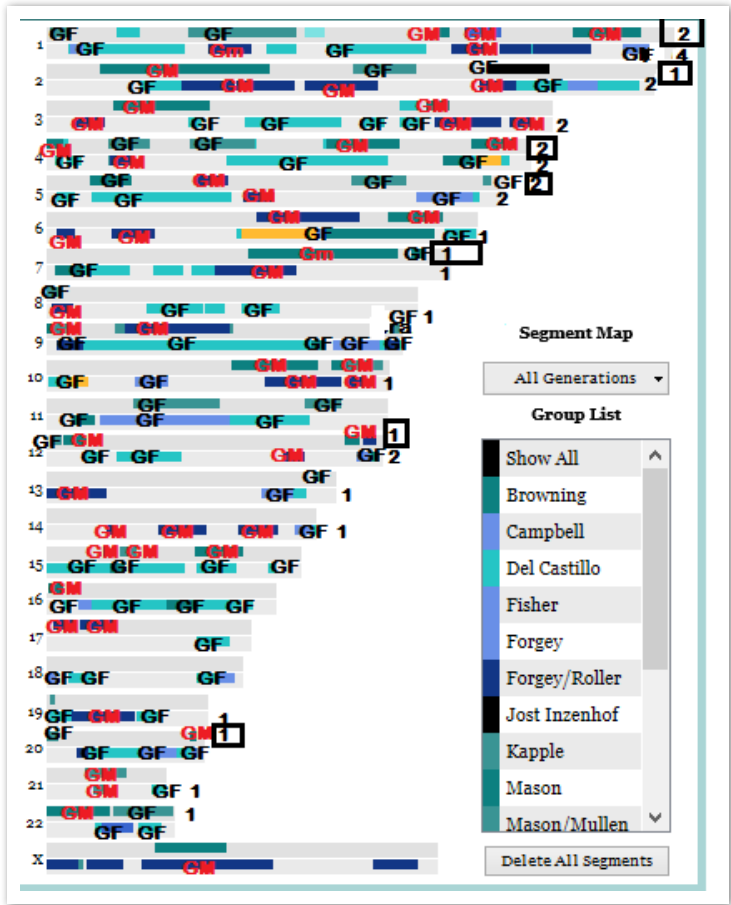
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chromosome chart below with the GF and GM for grandmother and grandfather. It does look like most chromosomes will have 1 or 2 recombination events, it's hard to say for sure with so many missing segments though? Recombination occurs more often on certain chromosomes and certain positions. I do see some chromosomes which may not have any recombination.

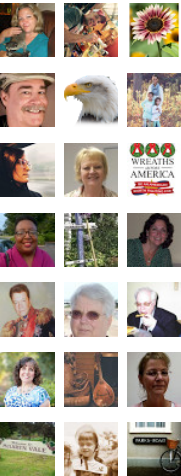


When you submit raw data from a different testing company MyHeritage has to take the data and infer missing data, since different companies test different positions. It may be a little better to test with them directly to get the most accurate results; although I've gotten very accurate results from them even though I transferred my raw data from another company.

MyHeritage also phases its results, like AncestryDNA. Phasing has a 1% error rate, resulting in breaks in long segments. They are able to stitch some of these together using an algorithm.

The new DNA testing companies such as MyHeritage and Living DNA have learned lessons from the companies that entered the market first. They have improved the layout of the information presented for easier reviewing of matches. MyHeritage has updated their chromosome browser to allow you to compare segments with multiple matches, something 23andMe first introduced. These companies have taken the best features of the early companies and added some even better features. They are also devising ways to make the results even more accurate. Better matching methods, ethnicity results, and easier reviewing of match data are going to far surpass results presented by the older testing companies. The older companies such as, AncestryDNA, need to step up their game to compete.

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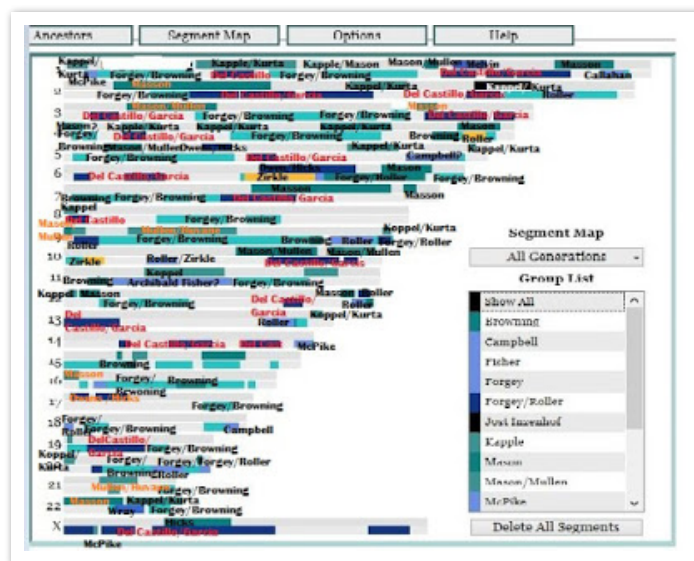
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Posted by **Annette** at 9:44 AMNo comments: 

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Thursday, March 1, 2018

## MyHeritage Leads to Progress/Matching Problem Found

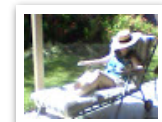


I've been collecting DNA segments since I first took the atDNA test in 2012. I first tested with Family Tree DNA which provided the segment data which allowed me to begin this process. I then uploaded that data to GEDmatch and was able to add a few more segments to my chromosome segment map. A few years later I tested with 23andMe. Initially all of these sites provided me with a number of additional segments. After the initial finds from a new database adding segments became very slow. The matches at FTDNA are often low quality and don't have any surnames or trees posted. Once every few months I have found a segment or two to add to my map at FTDNA. Same with GEDmatch. Most matches at GEDmatch have no tree posted. Sometimes you can find them with a tree at Ancestry. Often the GEDmatch Ancestry matches use a different username at the Ancestry site. 23andMe has helped me add a few segments to my map. The biggest problems at 23andMe are no trees, lack of response to messages, and little family knowledge of those testing. The tools are great at 23andMe, but without trees making connections is difficult.

Thank god for **MyHeritage** which provides trees, a chromosome chart with shared segments, shared match information, and shared surnames all on one page for ease of reviewing matches. Instead of adding segments, or a couple of segments, every month or two I'm adding half a dozen every week. I'm not sure everyone would see the same results? I have a feeling that is because some of my ancestors immigrated to America more recently? Although I have found some good matches with early colonial southern ancestors. I'm getting so much of a good thing I'm having trouble keeping up with all the new segment data.

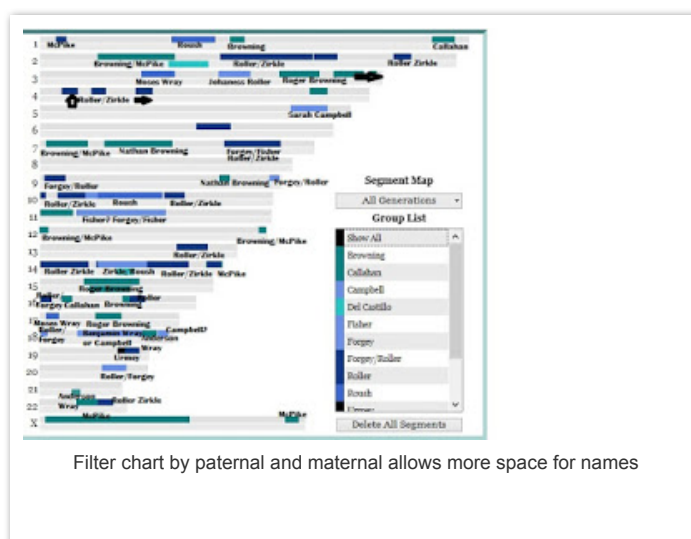
You can see my most recent chromosome map above. I've marked the segments with names using **Paint**. I used Genome Mate Pro to create the map. It's actually better to make separate maps for the maternal and paternal lines so you can use the extra line space to write the names.

### About Me

**Annette**

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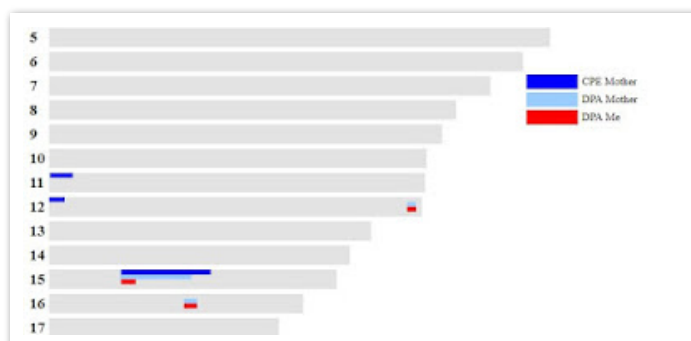
### Feedjit



### Matching Problem Found

It seems my mother and I have continuous problems with one particular match on our Browning line we'll call CPE. This match is a 2nd cousin 1x removed for my mother. The first problem with this match was the fact she was eliminated as a match at Ancestry when they introduced the Timber filter. This cousin, according to FTDNA, shares one 36.69 cm segment and two others. The other two segments are 14.89, and 13.68. Can you imagine this great match was eliminated? She did reappeared later when Ancestry performed some sort of update that fixed some of the Timber problems.

Adding segments I noticed someone, we'll call DPA, matches me on chromosome 15 with a 13.2 cm segment, and matches my mother beginning at the same start point with a longer 35 cm segment. Family Tree DNA considers our cousin DPA, with my 13.2 cm matching segment, to match both my mother and I. Our CPE cousin from Ancestry, overlaps my mother, DPA and I exactly on chromosome 15. That would mean I share around 13.2 cm's with CPE. This conclusion is reached by comparing the red segment I share with DPA on chromosome 15, with the dark blue segment of CPE (see chart below). However, even though I share a 13.2 cm segment with our Browning cousin, CPE, I don't show up as a match at either FTDNA or Ancestry? Since this person isn't Nicaraguan at all the 13.2 cm segment I share with CPE can't come from my maternal grandmother Graciela Del Castillo. Instead it would have to come from my Northern European Grandfather Charles Forgey whose uncle William Jefferson Browning is this matches direct ancestor. As a matter of fact DPA and CPE are both descendants of William Jefferson Browning, which is why they share overlapping segments with us on chromosome 15.



So how come I'm not considered a match to CPE at either Family Tree DNA or Ancestry, and her cousin is? In the case of FTDNA it's likely that CPE didn't share enough total cm's. Above you can see some of the segments I share with DPA in red. Apparently I shared more total

cms with DPA, who is considered a match.

Ancestry has a different criteria for establishing matches. They cut down the size of segments based on areas considered false positive regions. The area on chromosome 15 where we share segments with our Browning cousins has a false positive region of around 2 cms. Every company has different starting and ending points and slightly different segment sizes (except Ancestry which can have large segment size differences). The false positive region could be why we've had so many problems with this match. You can see the many segments in the false positive regions which Ancestry likely considered a pileup region (chart right).

C...	Start	End	cMs	SNPs	
15	25.5	31.3	12.0	1,112	■
15	25.5	31.3	12.0	781	■
15	25.5	31.3	12.0	779	■
15	25.5	31.3	12.1	1,119	■
15	25.5	31.3	12.1	795	■
15	25.5	31.3	12.2	792	■
15	25.5	31.3	12.3	1,110	■
15	25.5	31.3	12.3	1,122	■
15	25.5	31.5	13.2	1,224	■
15	25.5	31.5	13.2	1,218	■
15	25.5	32.7	16.2	1,569	■
15	25.6	30.7	9.4	819	■
15	25.6	30.7	9.4	819	■
15	25.6	31.3	11.4	1,047	■
15	25.7	33.8	17.5	891	■
15	25.8	33.7	17.0	1,219	■
15	26.0	31.2	10.0	918	■
15	26.0	31.2	10.0	918	■

Since all of these segments, my mother, Browning cousins and mine, overlap and we all share the common ancestors Nathan Browning and Obedience McPike, and these two matches share an even closer Browning ancestor, I believe my shared segment with CPE should be considered a match. It's possible for a false positive region to be part of an identical by descent segment.

Cutting out matches who share DNA in a false positive regions eliminates thousands of false matches, however, it also eliminates a few good matches. That's why Gedmatch is important. It doesn't eliminate all of these false positive region matches and allows you to see all matching segments.

We all need to keep in mind that possible cousins may not appear as matches for a variety of reasons, and may still share matching segments. Comparing at a variety of sites can uncover matching segments, and cousins, not surfacing elsewhere.

Posted by [Annette](#) at [1:03 PM](#)    No comments:    

Friday, February 9, 2018

# Teutophobia/ Chunks of DNA Admixture Missing?





My father and I. Actually I was starting to come down with the flu when this pic was taken

I'll be travelling back to the Kappel/Koppel homeland in Austria in May. It does bring mixed feelings. Being told over and over again that our surname is Jewish led me to near panic attack whenever watching any movies or documentaries about the Holocaust. I think I mentioned in a previous blog post that a Holocaust survivor said she looked just like me when she was a child. That brought home to me that I could have ended up in a concentration camp like her. I am also part German. I had avoided attending any German festivals for years, I couldn't celebrate that culture which was associated with genocide. I went to Oktoberfest a few years back and began to accept that I am part German, and not all Germans were involved in the genocide.

I made peace with celebrating Oktoberfest but really hadn't planned to ever visit Germany. I'll be taking a tour of Austria during a portion of my 2 week stay there. This tour actually starts in Munich, Germany. It's a Trafalgar tour called "**The Sound of Music**" tour. I'm a little apprehensive about this tour because we will be visiting Dachau. I've decided to take that optional tour to see the remains of the Concentration Camp. It will be very difficult but I think it's important to pay my respects there. A man from Gussing, living not far from my family in Inzenhof, died at Dachau. I also have memories of watching the hostage drama at the Munich Olympics on TV. I probably never would have gone to Germany if not for the fact the tour begins there. I don't know why I blame Germany more than the other Eastern European countries which also participated in the anti Semitism which ultimately led to the genocide? Hitler was actually born in Austria. I'm sure once I get there I will appreciate the beauty of the area and see first hand everything is alright there now.

I have to say the current climate in this country reminds me of what happened in Germany and Eastern Europe. I'm referring to the dehumanizing of people of a different religion and people who look different, or have a different lifestyle. This doesn't always lead immediately to genocide, it may never lead to that. What appeared to happen in Hitler's Empire is the financial collapse after WWI led to the scapegoating of Jews and others who did not fit into the Aryan stereotype. There was always discrimination against Jews and people who didn't fit into what was thought to be the norm. Tribalism is normal. Economic dislocation leads to anger at groups who don't fit the norm yet seem to be thriving while you are struggling to get by. Whenever things went bad in Eastern Europe they went after minorities. That seems to be the way of the world with the same sort of behavior here. Ingraining tolerance in children can inoculate society against ruthless behavior when resources become scarce. Most Americans are very kind hearted people. I believe we can overcome the forces that would like to destroy our fellowship with one another, and turn us against one another.

## Chunks of Missing Admixture

The twist to this story after being told the Kapple's were ethnically Jewish my entire life the DNA tests are not supporting that? The autosomal tests never give me any Ashkenazi admixture. Although two of my cousins tested and they do show some Ashkenazi? My Aunt on my father's side doesn't have any Ashkenazi at Family Tree DNA, but does have some at MyHeritage? It's completely beyond belief that the Kappel/Koppel's have no Ashkenazi admixture. The Y test could point to some Jewish roots because my cousin Darryl Kapple tested as J-M172?

I can see major problems with the admixture based the fact my grandfather Rudolph Kappel's Eastern European heritage is often missing from our results. My Aunt should be half Eastern European. Looking at the Family Tree DNA results I would say the 6% Eastern European represents my Aunt's

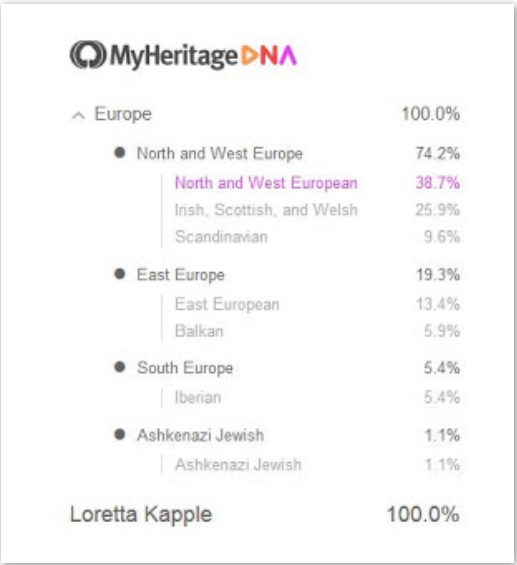
father. Southeast European 30% likely also represents her father? That's 36%. We're missing 14% of her inheritance from her father.

MyHeritage would seem to be more accurate. Many say MyHeritage isn't accurate for them. It could be just by chance they accidentally came close to getting my Aunt's admixture right?

I'm giving MyHeritage the benefit of the doubt. About 27% of the admixture predicted by them would more than likely go to her father. 74% North and West European would be too much to give to my Grandmother Mason. The further breakdown which includes only continental Europe would included part of Austria and Germany most of which I would give my Grandpa Kappel, which I could add up to 50%. My Aunt's grandmother was Irish, so the 25% Irish would be correct.

European	100%
British Isles	40%
East Europe	6%
Finland	0%
Scandinavia	24%
Southeast Europe	30%
Iberia	0%
West and Central Europe	0%
Jewish Diaspora	0%
Ashkenazi	0%
Sephardic	0%

Family Tree DNA



**Ethnicity**

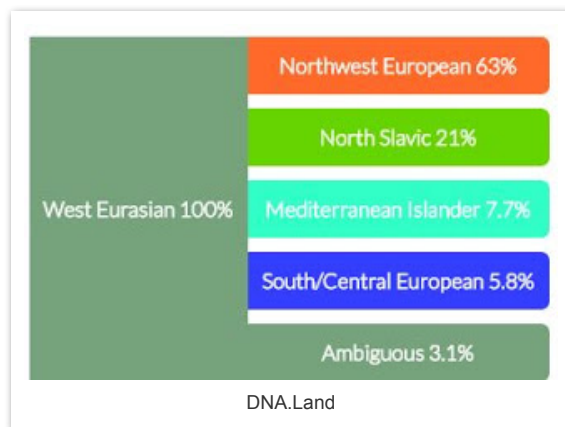
**Regions:** Ireland, Europe West, Great Britain

**Trace Regions:** Italy/Greece, Europe East, European Jewish, Iberian Peninsula

AncestryDNA

I still actually believe the Kappels have some Jewish ethnicity. It is however possible they were also of Romanian origin or Sephardic Jews? The admixtures tests aren't accurate enough to say? We need many more people from more places testing to get more accurate results.

I took another look at [DNA.Land's](#) ethnicity predictions. They may be the most accurate for the Kappel/Kapple family giving my Aunt and I some Northern Slavic admixture. They also predict some South/Central European.



Looking at the pictures I have of the Kappel's they look a little Germanic, but you can tell they are mixed ethnically.



My Great Aunt Bertha Kappel to the right, Daisy in the center? If anyone can ID Daisy I would appreciate it. And Bertha's husband Joseph Salamon.



Rudolph Kappel/Kapple, Daisy and my Grandmother Dorothy Mason-Kapple



Grandfather Rudolph Kappel with my Aunt June





My father and Aunts with their Maternal Aunt Mary Mason-Green. She, along with my grandmother, was half Irish with a Mix of French Canadian and Early American Scots-Irish and English. We've got the Mason/Mullens pretty much nailed as to ethnicity

### More on the Trip

The funny thing about my trip to the ancestral village in Inzenhof is how complicated getting there is going to be. I'll have to take several trains get there, plus rent a car. There are no hotels in Inzenhof so I need to stay in Gussing. My Great-Grandmother traveled back to the ancestral village from the US about 4 times. She was pregnant with my grandfather when the family went back in 1909. She often traveled back without her husband, but with some of her children. She would probably call me a wimp for complaining about the difficulty getting there today. She was only 5 ft. tall, like me, and had the stamina to travel with 6 young children including my infant Grandfather. On the 1910 return trip they would have had to take several trains from the Hungarian border to Antwerp, Belgium where they would board a ship to New York. From New York they would have had to take another train to Chicago.



Keppel/Kappel family returning to America in 1910

I wish I could have met my Grandfather Kapple, and great-grandparents. If I asked them what their ethnic mix was I doubt if they knew. From what I've heard they also believed they were ethnically Jewish. The reason they didn't know their ethnic origins is they lived in Burgenland, Austria. The Turks wiped out the population of this border area. Settlers were brought in to repopulate the area a little over 200 years ago. No one knows where all of the settlers came from? They could have been brought in from anywhere in the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

I feel like 20 years after beginning my research into the Kappel family their ethnic origins are just as obscure as when I started. It really doesn't matter as much to me anymore anyway. I'm more interested in them as individuals rather than their ethnicity. I'm still curious about their ethnicity for the sake of it. I'm more curious about whether DNA can ever uncover our true ethnic mix at some point? I don't think they've nailed it yet, however I'm going with either Northern Slavic and/or Southeastern European until proven otherwise. We've managed all this time to get along without knowing what sort of mixed breed we are, so I think we'll continue to do so.



Monday, January 22, 2018

## Filling In Chromosome Chart With MyHeritage and 23andMe.

I'm filling in my Chromosome chart little by little. Thankfully I'm now seeing some 2nd cousin matching segments. Not at GEDmatch or Familytree DNA, but instead at [23andMe](#) and [MyHeritage](#).

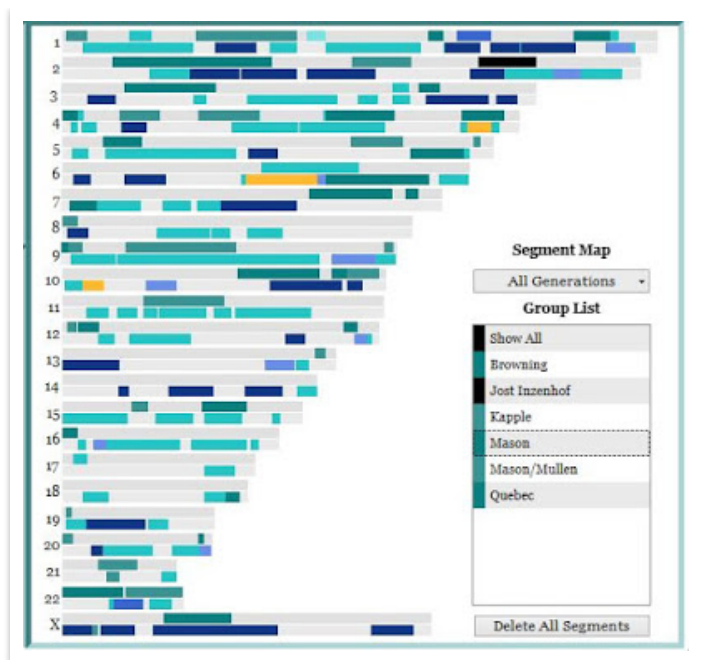
Since my mother tested I am able to separate my matches according to which parent I may have received a segment, or segments, from.

When I have segment data for matches I at least try to mark them according to which Grandparent they likely came from. That is easy when it comes to separating my Maternal line. Nicaraguan segments from my Grandmother Del Castillo are easy to separate from my Grandfather Forgey's Northern European segments. A high percentage of Native American and some African admixture signals a Nicaraguan match.

Separating my father's parents lines is more difficult since they both have European heritage. My Grandfather Kapple's family was from Burgenland, Austria. If someone has a tree with Burgenland ancestors I mark these segments as Kapple/Kurta, or more specifically if they have the same ancestors listed. My Mason grandmother had Irish, French Canadian, and some Early American Heritage. If I can find specific names associated with her family I mark her matches, or specific places like Pollaturick, Ireland.

This week I was able to see some 2nd cousin matches segments for the first time. One of these matches is a Kapple 2nd cousin. I'm certain these large segments are identical my descent. I know they come from ancestors in Burgenland, Austria. I also have a Mason 2nd cousin match. I'm not sure where geographically these segments trace too? They are helpful though in narrowing down which great-grandparents these segments may have came from

My expanding segment map helps me sort matches. If someone matches on my maternal or paternal side and matches in the same place I can infer they must descend from the ancestors that passed the segment down to me. Having 2nd cousin segments increases my confidence in my mapped regions. I'm hoping to fill in this map even more now that MyHeritage is offering segment data.



Posted by [Annette](#) at [2:57 PM](#) No comments:

Sunday, January 14, 2018

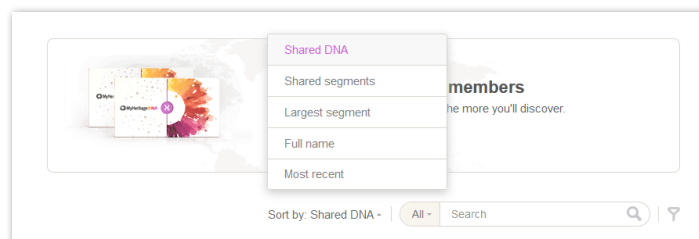
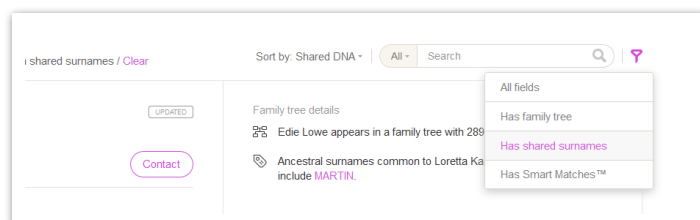
## MyHeritage Adds Chromosome Browser

I'm thrilled with [MyHeritage's Chromosome Browser](#)! The segment data they are now offering is helping me extend my segment maps. It's confirming which ancestors the segments are coming from by increasing the number of matches sharing the same segments and ancestors.

?		15	25.5	46.6	23.1	5,295	
P	Browning	15	25.5	50.9	26.1	6,195	
?		15	25.7	43.3	20.2	4,395	
?		15	25.7	48.1	23.6	5,495	
?		15	25.7	55.4	31.3	7,295	
P	Browning	15	25.7	58.0	36.7	8,295	
?		15	25.7	58.4	37.0	8,395	
P	Browning	15	27.9	47.9	29.0	10,112	
?		15	27.9	49.0	30.2	10,752	
P	Browning	15	29.1	53.0	30.4	2,515	
P	Browning	15	29.2	53.0	30.3	2,500	
?		15	29.3	43.3	16.6	3,795	
?		15	29.3	43.3	16.6	3,795	

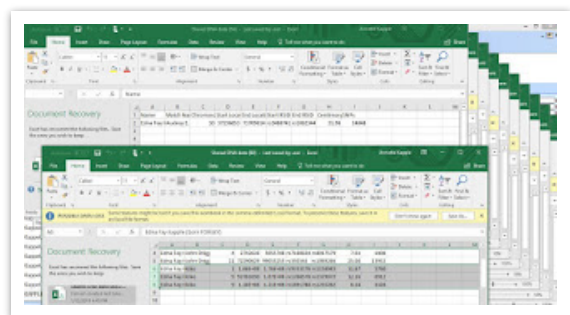
I believe you can still upload your raw data from other companies for free? Or you can buy their kit. I would highly recommend either uploading your raw data or **buying their kit**. My Mother, Aunt, and I now have more than 1,000 matches, so there are enough people testing with them to make it worthwhile. They've also improved their matching algorithms.

The tools and filters provided by **MyHeritage** are outstanding. Below you can see the menus which allow filtering by matches who share your surnames, or has a family tree attached. You can sort by shared segments, largest segment, full name, and most recent matches.



Right now you can only download the segments of your matches one match at a time using the advanced tool attached to the chromosome browser. They will eventually provide the ability to download all matches on to one spreadsheet.

Since I'm not patient I used cascading windows and copy paste to create one spreadsheet with the segments for a couple hundred top matches.

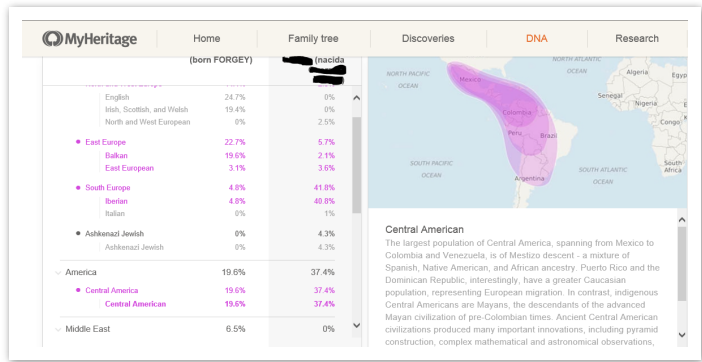


I then edited the spreadsheet to match a FamilytreeDNA spreadsheet so I could upload it to Geno Mate Pro. I had to delete the RSID columns. I also had to change our names so they

matched our own first and last names exactly at FamilytreeDNA. I added the letter M to the matches names so I know these matches came from MyHeritage.

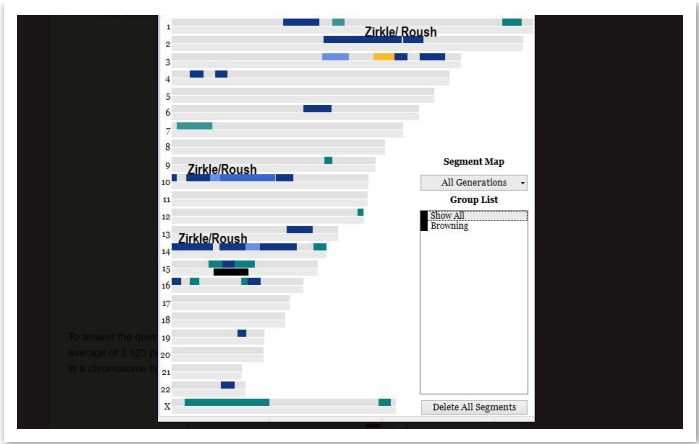
Shared DNA data (88) - Saved										
Annette Kapple										
File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Help										
Tell me what you want to do										
General Conditional Formatting Styles Cells										
If lost if you save this workbook in the comma-delimited (.csv) format. To preserve these features, save it in										
Don't show										
RSID										
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
	Name	Match	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End	Start	End
1	Edna Fay I Don Hansi	1	24818125	38501896	rs7546641	rs1241061	15.93	6400		
2	Edna Fay I Beverly g	7	38028284	78072976	rs7521818	rs7802215	32.55	15744		
3	Edna Fay I John Drigg	4	2792636	5055748	rs7160824	rs8017579	7.03	1408		
4	Edna Fay I John Drigg	11	72290829	99055253	rs1392565	rs1089286	25.08	13952		
5	Edna Fay I Kiko	1	1.66E+08	1.70E+08	rs9333376	rs1158045	11.67	5760		
6	Edna Fay I Kiko	9	92761630	1.07E+08	rs1268578	rs1129072	12.16	6912		
7	Edna Fay I Kiko	9	1.16E+08	1.21E+08	rs1691748	rs1235282	8.14	3328		
8	Edna Fay I Audrey E.	10	37216853	71709614	rs2488741	rs1082344	31.96	14848		

MyHeritage provides some information the other companies don't such as suggesting approximately where geographically you and your match may have shared ancestors.



My chromosome charts are expanding based on the new segment data provided by MyHeritage. Below you can see how one of my Chromosome maps has grown in one year. The top is this year the bottom is last.





I've been able to mark my first segments from my Grandfather Rudolph Kapple. He was born in what is now Burgenland, Austria. Since so few people from there, or living there, have tested we have few matches from Burgenland. My aunt now has a fairly close cousin sharing 189 cM's at MyHeritage. The segment on chromosome 11 is my only good Burgenland match so far. I also have a couple very small segment matches with Burgenland matches.



Overall MyHeritage DNA provides outstanding tools for working with your DNA matches.

Way to go MyHeritage DNA! You Rock!

Posted by [Annette](#) at [11:02 AM](#)    No comments:   

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

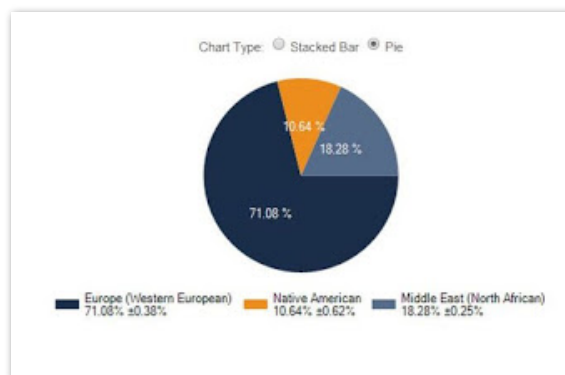
[Home](#)
[My Pedigree Charts](#)
[Research Goals](#)

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

## New 23andMe Ethnicity Results

Still waiting on the Living DNA results. However new ethnicity results came in from 23andMe to help tide me over until I get those results.

The ethnicity results have come a long way since my first results in 2012. My first results looked like what you see in the pie chart below. Very basic. The Middle Eastern result has gone down to a small trace.



The new 23andMe result is attempting to present much more specific results based on more populations. 23andMe has always presented my family with the best ethnicity estimates based on our knowledge of our heritage.

The added ethnicities now showing up are accurate for my family. Here is my list of ethnicities. I highlighted the new specific results.



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My Blog List

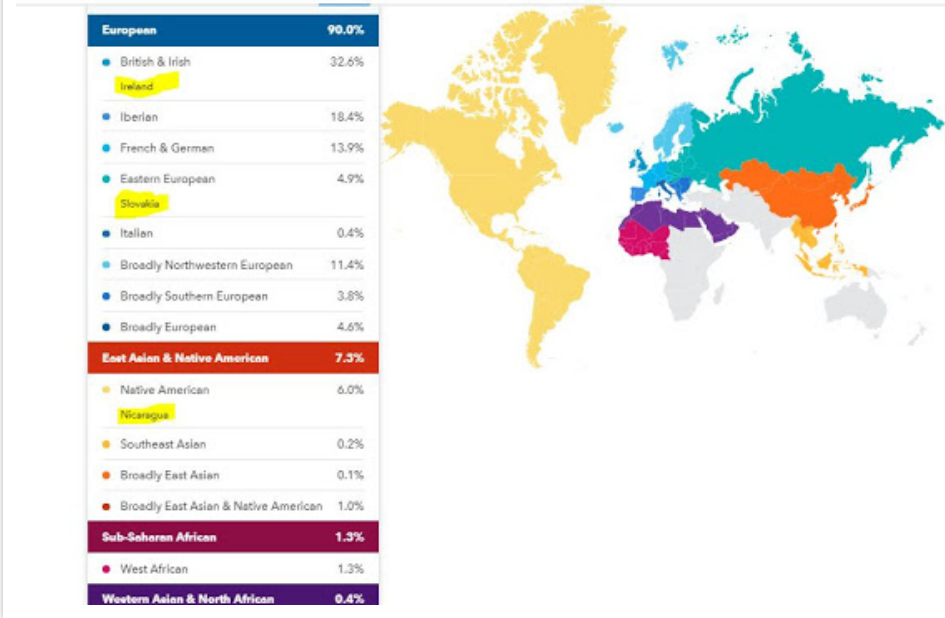


**Arlene Eakle's Tennessee Blog**  
Tennessee  
Ancestors—Mostly  
Military Evidence  
Found in Early  
Land Claims  
*1 week ago*

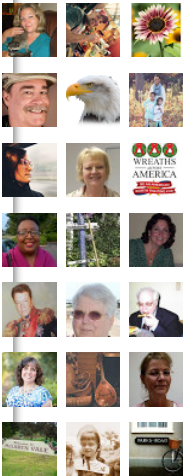


**Geneabloggers**  
Happy October  
2020  
Blogiversaries  
*2 weeks ago*

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    - [Searching Irish Election Rolls/ Plus Irish 2019 El...](#)
  - October (1)
  - September (2)
  - August (1)
  - July (1)
  - June (2)
  - May (1)
  - April (1)
  - March (2)
  - February (1)
  - January (1)
- 2019 (16)
- 2018 (22)
- 2017 (31)

Ireland that would be accurate because my great-grandmother Helen Mullen was born in Ireland. The Slovakian is an ethnicity that I haven't been able to verify using traditional genealogy. DNA.Land also came up with a similar result. This result would have come from my Austro-Hungarian family. They lived on the Austrian Hungarian border. They were actually relocated from another unknown area in the 18th Century to the border area. This result may lead us to a place of origin at some point? I'm leaning on definitely believing the Kappels and Kurtas were Slavic.

My grandmother Graciela Del Castillo was Nicaraguan so that ethnicity is also correct.

My mother's results are also fascinating (see below). Her British Isles wasn't categorized as Irish, but instead they are calling it United Kingdom. Often someone like my mother with substantial Scottish heritage is grouped with Irish, or just called Irish. That is a pet peeve with me because the Scottish and Irish are culturally different. They both have wonderful, but different cultures. I know from a DNA standpoint these two groups may be nearly identical, or actually identical. If they can be separated I would like to see that, or just make it clear Scots and Irish are indistinguishable from a DNA standpoint.

My mother was half Nicaraguan so that was spot on.

EDNA KAPPLE100%

European80.5%

British & Irish34.2%

United Kingdom

Iberian19.9%

Eastern European1.1%

Ashkenazi Jewish0.5%

Broadly Southern European10.9%

Broadly Northwestern European7.6%

Broadly European6.1%

East Asian & Native American13.9%

Native American10.9%

Nicaragua

Southeast Asian0.2%

Broadly East Asian0.1%

Broadly East Asian & Native American2.7%

Sub-Saharan African2.7%

West African2.4%

Broadly Sub-Saharan African0.2%

2016 (24)

2015 (30)

2014 (53)

2013 (59)

2012 (76)

2011 (94)

About Me

Annette

View my complete profile

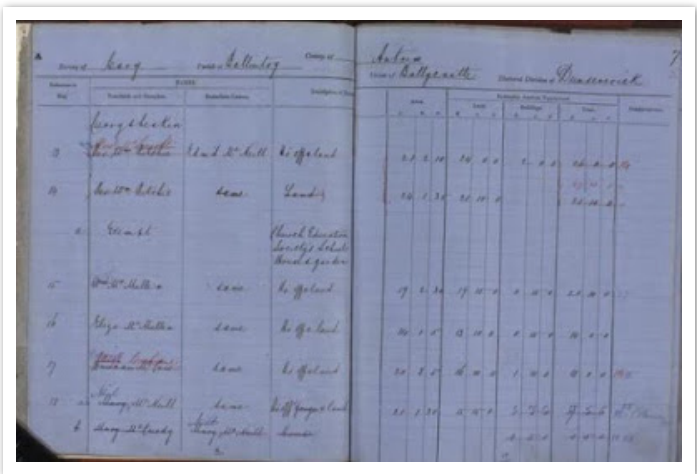
Feedjit

I would say the percentages are not completely accurate, because these are estimates. Otherwise the results are looking good. Can't wait to see what Living DNA come up with. They say they run the test 100 times to get the most accurate result. We'll see?

Posted by Annette at 5:16 PM No comments: ➡

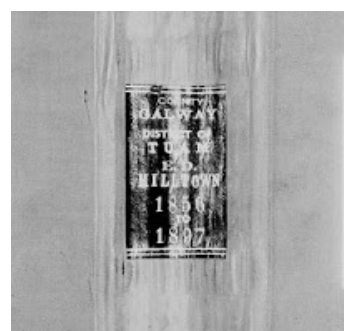
Saturday, March 17, 2018

# Some Irish Land Revision/Cancelled Books Now Online



Revision books or cancelled books are bound ledgers which are updates to Griffith's Valuation. Griffith's Valuation created a uniform system for placing a value on property for taxation purposes. As ownership of property changed and values changed these books were

updated. About every 10 years new ledgers were started. The old books became filled with changes of ownership and other notes creating a need to cancel the old ledgers and begin new ones. When ownership of land changed the previous owners name was crossed out, and the new owners name would be recorded above it in color coded ink representing the year of transfer.

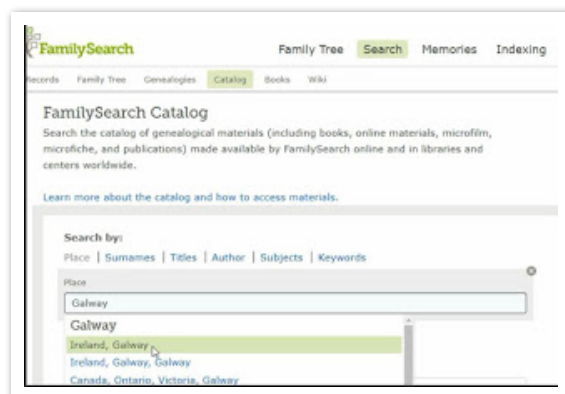


There are a couple of places you can look at revision or cancelled books online [PRONI](#) and [Familysearch.org](#).

To use the [Proni revision books](#) you need to know the location of your ancestors land because there doesn't appear to be a name index?

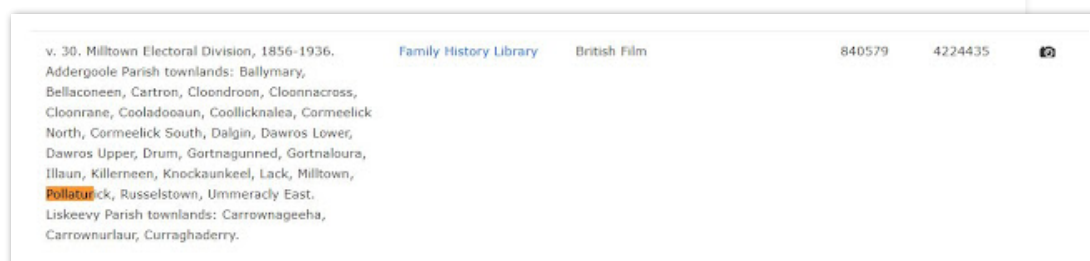
The revision books at [Familysearch.org](#) are not yet indexed either. The Familysearch books aren't in color so you can't see the color coding of notations. Finding a book digitized for your particular area is hit or miss proposition at this time. My Mullen families revision books have been digitized, the books for my Huvane/Huanes in County Mayo haven't been digitized yet.

To find these books at Familysearch.org go to the [catalog](#). Enter the county in the search box leaving out the word county. Then enter the option to filter for only online records in the next box.



In the screen displayed next you can select revision books from either land records or the taxation link.

The page you are now taken to lists the electoral division volumes and under those you'll find your townland listed. Looking at the image below you see the Mullen townland of Pollaturick listed in volume 30, so that is the right film. The camera to the far right means this divisions books are online. If there was a lock over the camera you would have to view this digitized film at an LDS Family History Center or Library. If there was a film instead of a camera displayed you would have to go to an LDS Library, which has this particular film in their collection.



The Mullens' townland, Pollaturick, is in the Milltown district books. The townlands are listed in alphabetical order in the ledgers. When a new ledger is started you'll noticed the change back to the beginning of the alpha order. The books for my area don't give the date for the start of the new ledgers. In order to get an idea of the time period the ledger covers you can look at the years of the transfers recorded under observations, in the far right column.

Buildings			Railways, Factories, Tolls, Half Acres, &c.			Total			OBSERVATIONS
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
0	15	0				5	15	0	1835
0	15	0				11	15	0	1835

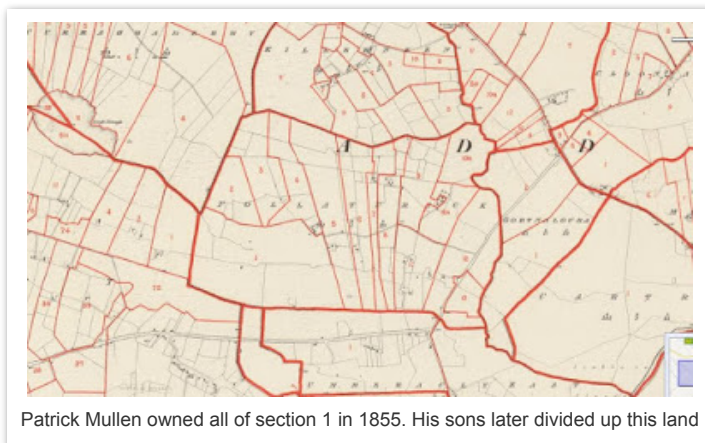
Under observations it was recorded that land changed hands in 1933 and 1935

There are two digitized books with ledgers, which are out of order by the way, for the Milltown Electoral Division. One covers the period 1856 to 1897, the other covers 1896 to 1936.

There was only one Mullen, Patrick, on the 1855 Griffith's Valuation for my ancestors townland Pollaturick. So I assumed that he was my ancestors father. My ancestor Patrick Mullen was born about 1837 in Pollaturick. The 1855 entry was unlikely to be him due to the fact he would have been too young to have such a large holding, as described in the Valuation. He didn't marry until 1880, so didn't set up a household until much later.

The revision books helped me establish the fact a Patrick Mullen owned land in section 1 of Pollaturick townland from 1856 until the the books end in the 1930's. My ancestor Patrick Mullen born about 1837 died in 1930. There is a Patrick Mullen I believe to be his father who died in Pollaturick in 1886. The revision books confirm that my Patrick Mullen owned the same land in section 1 as the Patrick Mullen listed in 1855. This strengthens my case that his father was Patrick Mullen, and his mother was Ellen McQualter, since they were the only couple living in that area when my Patrick was born, plus his likely brother Michael stated that Patrick and Ellen were his parents.

Here is a map showing the sections for Pollaturick townland.



Patrick Mullen owned all of section 1 in 1855. His sons later divided up this land

I believe I misunderstood the meaning of a land transfer for Patrick and Michael Mullen in 1910. I thought Patrick was transferring a portion of his land to his son Michael in that year. His son Michael was about 28 years old in that year and still farming the land in section 1 with his father Pat. Now I believe the 1910 land transfer involved his brother Michael. The



land purchase acts allowed lease holders to buy their land at a reduced price. They could also take out low interest loans to buy the property. I believe when their father Patrick died they never changed the name on the lease. I understand this because when my father died we didn't change the property title for over 5 years. Pat and Michael stayed on their father's land paying the taxes owed in his name. When they were able to buy the land they changed the ownership to reflect the fact my ancestor Patrick farmed plots A and B, and Michael farmed plots C and D of section 1.

I know they bought the land because of the notations In Fee, and LAP stamp or land act purchase stamp. LAP means they received a low interest loan to buy the land. Pat's brother Michael never appeared in the revision books before buying his portion of his father's land, reinforcing the likelihood this transaction was between the brothers, not father and son. The change of ownership actually likely recognized the ownership of the two brothers removing their father as leaseholder.

(A.) COUNTY OF <u>Galway</u>				UNION OF <u>Limerick</u> (32)													
Townland of <u>Pollaturick</u> O.S. <u>150</u>				Rural District of <u>Limerick</u> Electoral Division of <u>Mullown</u>													
Reference to Map	S. M. S. R.			Detailed Account of Tenements													
	Grantee	Intermediate Lessee	Description of Tenure	Area	Land	Buildings	Rent	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value				
				A	S	F	A	S	F	£	S	D	P	£	S	D	P
1/2 B	<u>Patrick Mullown</u>	<u>J. C. Clarke</u> [L.A.P.]	<u>Off. of L.A.P.</u>	26	1	20	6	0	0	0	10	0	6	10	0	0	0
1/2 C	<u>Patrick Mullown</u>	<u>J. C. Clarke</u>	<u>Off. of L.A.P.</u>	27	1	20	6	0	0	0	10	0	12	10	0	0	0
1/2 D	<u>Patrick Mullown</u>	<u>J. C. Clarke</u> (L.A.P.)	<u>Off. of L.A.P.</u>	28	1	20	6	0	0	0	10	0	6	10	0	0	0
2 A	<u>Thomas Kerrane</u>	<u>J. C. Clarke</u> [L.A.P.]	<u>Off. of L.A.P.</u>	11	0	22	3	15	0	0	10	0	14	5	0	0	0

Early on my ancestors leased the land they farmed. My ancestor's original landlord was Courtney Clarke. Apparently he died in 1876 and his name is struck through with the new Clarke landlord now listed above his name.

A		Barony of <i>Quinn</i>		County of <i>Sligo</i>		Union of <i>Stran</i>		Electoral Division of <i>Mullown</i>		33					
Reference to Map		NAME		Description of Tenure		Area		RENTS AND TAXES						OCCUPYER	
		Townland and Occupier		Intermediate Lessee				Land		Buildings		Total			
								A. R. P.		A. R. P.		£ s. d.			
1		<i>Pollaturick</i>		<i>J. C. Clarke</i>		<i>Off. of L.A.P.</i>		27		1 20		6 0 0		12 10 0	
2		<i>William Kerrane</i>		<i>J. C. Clarke</i>		<i>Off. of L.A.P.</i>		28		1 20		6 0 0		6 10 0	
3		<i>Patrick Mullown</i>		<i>J. C. Clarke</i>		<i>Off. of L.A.P.</i>		29		1 20		6 0 0		6 10 0	
4		<i>Thomas Kerrane</i>		<i>J. C. Clarke</i>		<i>Off. of L.A.P.</i>		30		1 20		6 0 0		6 10 0	

It was very rewarding to see when my family finally bought the land they farmed for so long. This land was still in the Mullen family a few years ago. I'm not sure if it is still owned by descendants at this time?

Within a couple of years all of the revision books should be searchable online. Keep checking back if your books aren't digitized yet.



A homestead in Pollaturick

Posted by **Annette** at **1:12 PM**

No comments:



Friday, March 16, 2018

## St.Pat's Irish Genealogy Progress Report/ Please Post Tree!



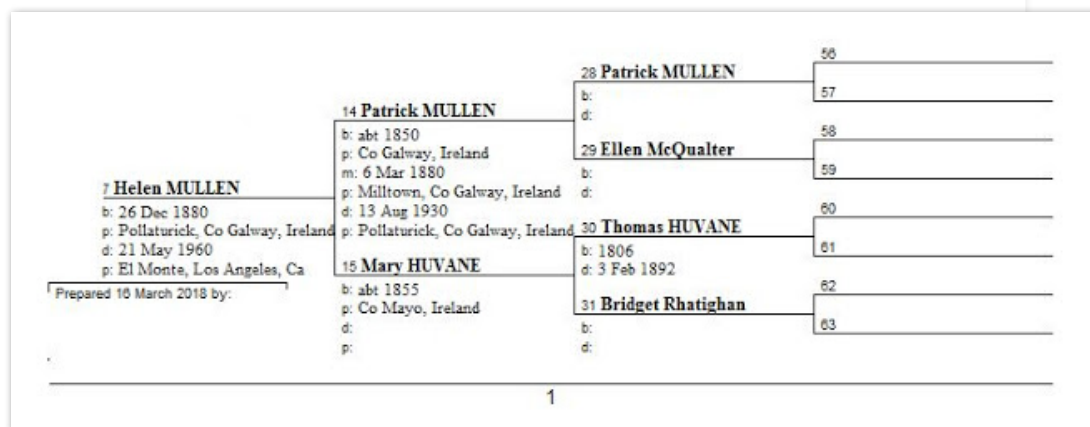
I have a plea to all those with Irish Ancestry please make a family tree, either using online tools or software, and post it online somewhere! With enough trees posted we might be able to figure out lines we might relate to. That is especially crucial if you've taken a DNA test. If you've DNA tested please attach a tree to your results. **MyHeritage** is now the premier place for DNA matching. If you've tested at Ancestry.com please transfer your raw data over to MyHeritage. You can then download a gedcom file from Ancestry and upload to MyHeritage so your family tree will be visible to matches. When you create a tree just do your best. If you only know your grandparents names it's ok if the tree ends there. Include every bit of information you have in the tree. Too many trees don't even contain a place or any dates. Places and dates are important. There is no way of making any connections without any

information provided.

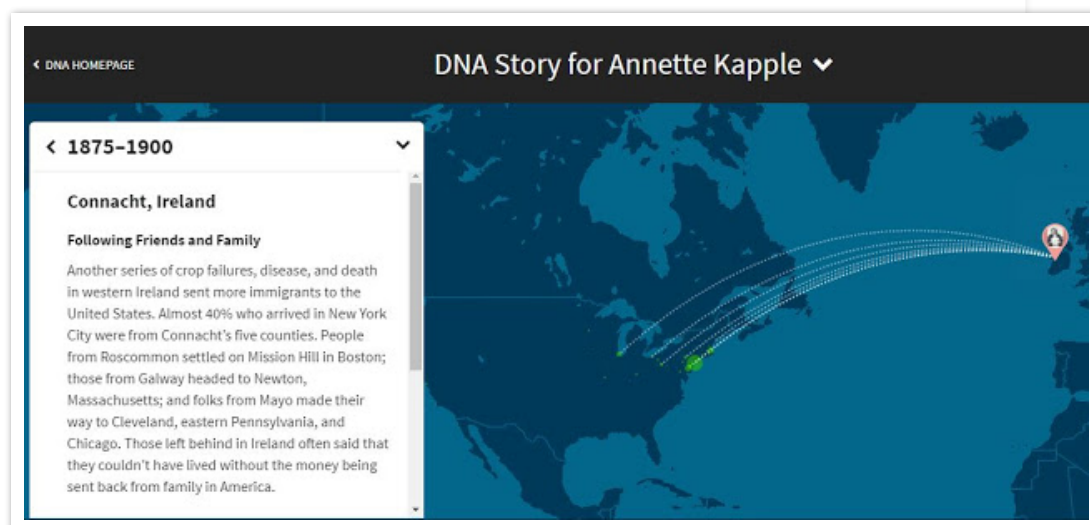
I've posted some Irish genealogy links on [my wall at Facebook](#). If you're American and don't know where in Ireland your family came from you can search the Ellis Island passenger lists, and other passenger lists at Ancestry.com, Familysearch.org, or the Ellis Island website. If your ancestor born in Ireland applied for a Social Security card their application might contain their place of birth. Death Certificates are also a good sources for a place of birth if the informants were close relatives. The townland or nearest larger town are critical keys to finding more about your ancestors through surviving records.

I'm stressing the importance of collecting all available information because I'm at pretty much of a standstill with my research because so few people have information posted with their DNA results. I think we could make some progress on our Irish genealogy with DNA if more people would collect all the information they can about their families and post it with their results.

Here is where I am with my research. I am where I've been for the past couple years. Helen Mullen born in 1880 was my Great-Grandmother. She came to America in 1898.



Ancestry has placed me in a Connacht DNA grouping based on DNA shared by others with ancestors from that province.



My Aunt Loretta didn't have many good DNA matches until recently with the introduction of DNA testing and transfers at MyHeritage. She now has some great matches with cousins of Irish descent. In a couple of cases we have narrowed down the area where these matches

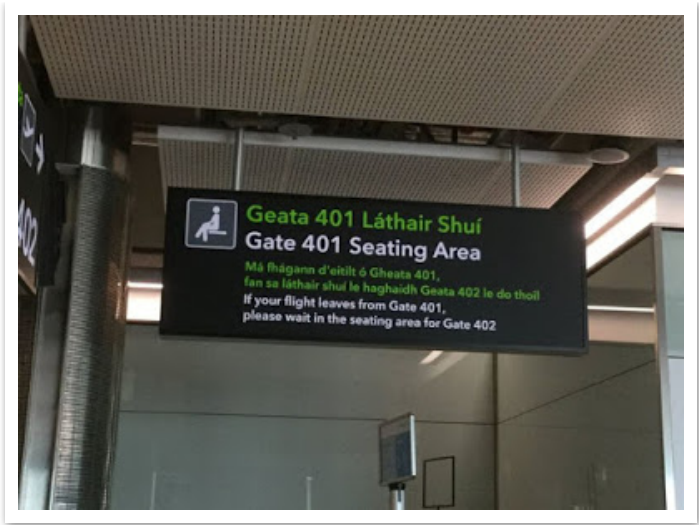
ancestors lived to the general area where our ancestors came from. If the match has traced the family back to a town in Ireland that information has been very useful in making a tentative connection.

Below you can see much of chromosome 8 represents what my Aunt Loretta received from her grandmother Helen Mullen. If more people transferred their raw data from AncestryDNA to GEDmatch, Familytree DNA, and MyHeritage we might be able to start naming these segments, and finding more Irish segments. A combination of document research and DNA could extend all of our Irish lines.



I've never toured Ireland, but it is on my wish list for the future. I have been to the airport in Dublin. What I noticed flying into Ireland is the beautiful green landscape is as green as we've all heard. Here is a photo I took flying into Dublin airport. I enjoyed seeing the rabbits that live in the grass around the runway.





When I saw the photo of JFK arriving in Ireland, in June 1963 my birth month and year, I thought about my grandmother Dorothy who was Helen Mullen's daughter. She was Republican. I wondered if she voted for JFK? The California voter registers at Ancestry.com answered that question. Since she declined to state a party preference in 1960 I assume she voted for Kennedy?



1759 Riverside dr, D	Hustad, Ole M. 2135 Gail st, Prob	Mannussen, Robert A. 2124 J
1817 1/2 Riverside dr, D	Izenburg, Mrs Marie M. 2651 Blimp st, R	Reasert, Mrs Sarah, 2329 Ead
2409 Dallas st, R	Jensen, Mrs Celestine E. 2622 Rich st, D	Reyes, Fortunato M. 2637 Bl
Dallas st, D	Johnston, Fred A. 2656 Rich st, R	Richards, Mrs Blanche G. 232
2645 Rich st, D	Johnston, Mrs Lulu P. 2656 Rich st, D	Riehl, Mrs Eva. 1644 Blake a
Pirile st, R	Jones, Mrs Ethel M. 2325 Dallas st, D	Rogers, Mrs Katherine L. 26
2636 Pirile st, D	Jones, Paul E. 2325 Dallas st, D	Russo, John A. 2328 Forney
Eads st, D	Kappler, Miss Dorothy Jane. 2618 Blimp st, R	Russo, Mrs Virginia E. 2328 F
2323 Eads st, D	Kappler, Mrs Dorothy W. 2618 Blimp st, DS	Schneider, Adolph J. 1812 Coto
2349 Gail st, D	Kearns, Mrs Iris, 2332 Gail st, D	Schmidt, Mrs Josephine. 2306
2 Gail st, D	Kearns, Glen E. 2332 Gail st, R	Schulke, Frank G. 2671 Rich st
1857 Riverside dr, R	Kearns, Lloyd H. 2332 Gail st, D	Schumacher, Jesse J. 2623 Ri
1857 Riverside dr, D	Kenney, Mrs Harriett, 2342 Gail st, D	Schumacher, Mrs Margaret L.
Dallas st, D	Kennedy, Mrs Lucille E. 2318 Eads st, D	Shada, Curtis P. 2714 Pirle
2357 Eads st, D	Keough, Mrs Dorothy L. 1669 Blake av, D	Shada, Mrs Sylvia B. 2714 P
1330 Eads st, D	Krachey, John Edward, 2342 Gail st, D	Siddall, John A. 2642 Rich st
9 Eads st, D	Kull, Mrs Alice H. 2627 Blimp st, D	Slobodin, Richard D. 2331 1/2
Urney st, R	Kull, Byron J. 2627 Blimp st, D	Smiley, Howard W. 2662 P
Blimp st, R	Lane, George K. 2655 Rich st, DS	Smiley, Mrs Peggy L. 2662 P
Dalla st, D	Leyvan, Paul Jr. 2657 Blimp st, D	Smith, Mrs Melba. 2344 Gail
2343 Eads st, R	Liter, Christian W. 2654 Rich st, D	Southwick, Harold Edward, 2
2343 Eads st, R	Lopez, Frank M. 2316 Eads st, D	Steen, Miss Doretta, 2622 Ri
		Strain, James Claude, 2675 Ri

I may not be able to trace my family in Ireland any farther back than around 1800? It's still been a rewarding process.

Below you can pretend you are taking a trip on Aer Lingus to Dublin. I recorded these announcements on my way to Dublin airport from France. If you can understand the pilots full announcement you are truly Irish. HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!



### Pilot Announcement Aer Lingus



### Safety Announcement Aer Lingus



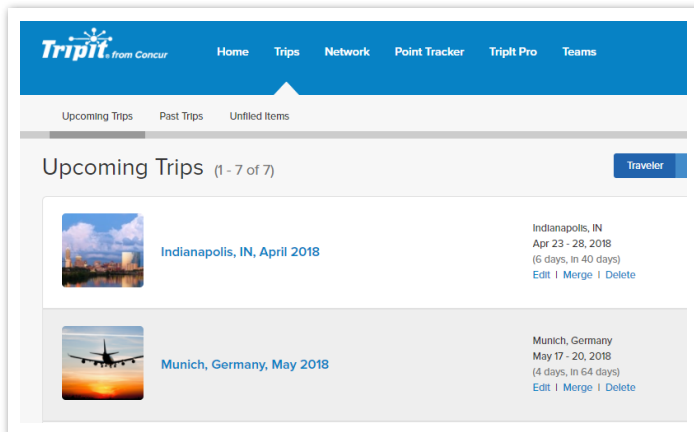
Posted by **Annette** at **12:39 PM**

No comments:



Wednesday, March 14, 2018

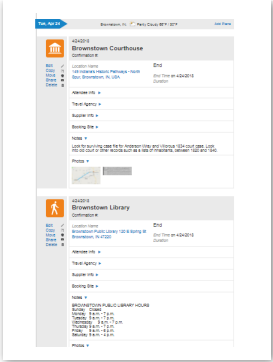
## Using TripIt to Plan a Research Trip



I am planning two trips this year to ancestral areas. Normally I used Facebook notes to keep my travel and research plans, and all other pertinent information. I copy and paste my flight information, and hotel information along with all directions and hours for places I'm visiting.

I learned about an alternative called **Tripit** which allows you to make an itinerary, keep notes, and post pictures. You can allow Tripit access to your email and it will use your confirmation emails to make an itinerary. If you're not comfortable giving them access to your email you can enter the information yourself.

I'm using the free version. The pay version is called Tripit Pro.

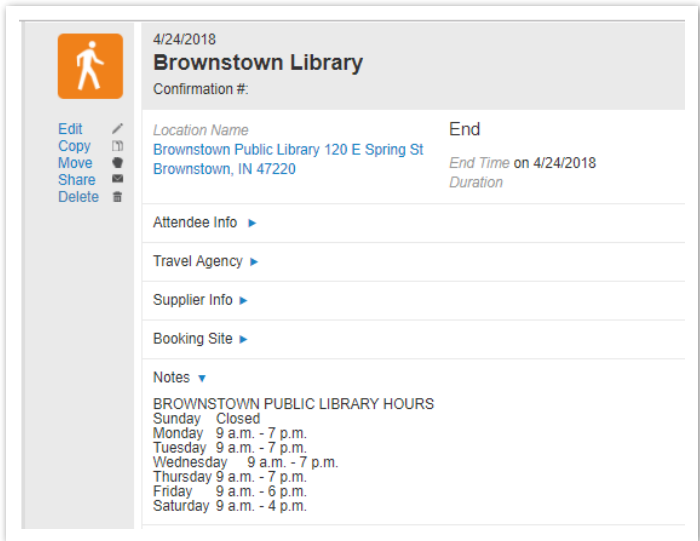


**This is how I'm using Tripit to plan my research trips**

First of all I'm adding my research trip locations as activities or tours. Then I add the address, I will add contact information later. Notes are wonderful for research purposes. I'm recording location information and questions to ask in my notes.

Adding pictures of maps or public transportation routes, and schedules, will help me too. I've added a copy of a document with enough information displayed in order to be able to identify a possible case file at the courthouse.

I've included library hours in my Brownstown Library research trip.



I added a nearby address to my Granny White Cemetery trip. There is no address for this small cemetery so I added a nearby address. I also added cross street information in the note.

Tue, Apr 24

Brownstown, IN: Partly Cloudy 66°F / 50°F

Add Plans

Edit  
Copy  
Move  
Share  
Delete

4/24/2018

**Brownstown Courthouse**

Confirmation #:

Location Name

149 Indiana's Historic Pathways - North Spur, Brownstown, IN, USA

End

End Time on 4/24/2018

Duration

Attendee Info ▶

Travel Agency ▶

Supplier Info ▶

Booking Site ▶

Notes ▼

Look for surviving case file for Anderson Wray and Villorous 1834 court case. Look into old court or other records such as a lists of inhabitants, between 1820 and 1840.

Photos ▼

Thu, Apr 26

Bedford, IN: Partly Cloudy 67°F / 51°F

Add Plans

Edit  
Copy  
Move  
Share  
Delete

4/26/2018

**Tour Granny White Cemetery**

Confirmation #:

Leesville Community Center

Adams St, Bedford, IN 47421, USA

End

End Time on 4/26/2018

Duration

Attendee Info ▶

Travel Agency ▶

Supplier Info ▶

Booking Site ▶

Notes ▼

Between Adams and Jefferson in Leesville, Lawrence





Photos ▼

The site also provides weather forecasts for each day you will be at that location, as you see across the top of the image above.

A fun feature is your travel stats. I added my previous trips and got the results below. I've traveled 200,000 miles in the past few years.

Your Travel Stats		
	2018 ▾	Total
Trips	0	24
Days	0	68
Distance	0 mi	211,933 mi
Cities	0	28
Countries	0	6

The best way to access your saved information is through the browser site. The app may be better if you pay for the Tripit Pro version? This is what the itinerary look like in app. I haven't found my pictures in the app. I do see my notes and hotel and flight information.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 2018	
--:--	 <b>Brownstown Courthouse</b>
--:--	 <b>Brownstown Library</b>
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 2018	
--:--	 <b>Freetown Cemetery, Cornett Grove Cemetery, Look at Forg...</b>
THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2018	
--:--	 <b>Tour Granny White Cemetery</b> Leesville Community Center
SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018	

I'm enjoying using this. I will probably make hard copies and image copies of all these pages with my itinerary just in case I can't get into the browser. Hopefully I can just access everything through the browser and continue to make notes when I arrive. I'll keep thinking of questions to ask and adding information up until the time I leave.

Posted by [Annette](#) at [2:26 PM](#) 1 comment: 

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Watermark theme. Powered by [Blogger](#).

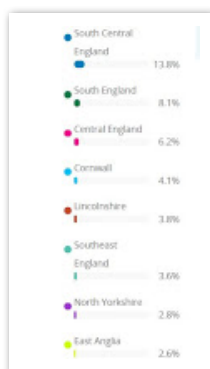
# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)[My Pedigree Charts](#)[Research Goals](#)

Saturday, May 12, 2018

## Comparing Living DNA Results to the Others



I received my **Living DNA** results yesterday. My impression so far matches the opinions of others who have tested with Living DNA. It really shines when it comes to British Isles ancestry. They have pointed to North West Scotland as the source of much of my British Isles ancestry, and that would most likely be correct. The 14% Scottish they estimate is about right. They also found some Cornish admixture, which one of the admix calculators at **GEDmatch** also came up with. They also came up with trace amounts of admix from other regions of England. I was curious about whether they would come up with any English admixture. I've visited England a couple of times and wondered if I had any ancestors from there. I'm hoping they are right that I do have some English ethnicity.

One of my Great-Great Grandfather's was French Canadian. Living DNA gave me 5% French, which is about right. 23andMe combines French and German, and the other companies don't give me any French estimates, so I can't compare this estimate with any others.

My Great-Great Grandmother Mary E. Owens is thought to have some Welsh ancestry. The surname Owens is associated with Wales. Living DNA gives me one result for South Wales and one for South Border Wales. The other companies haven't separated out Wales from other results.



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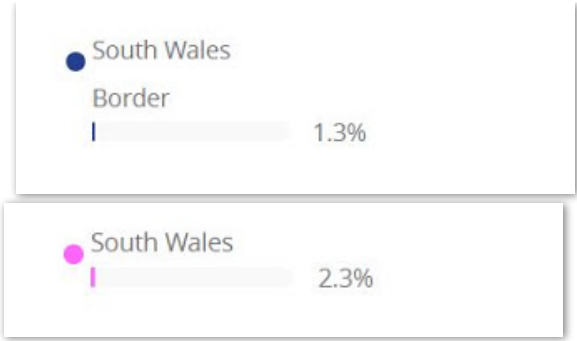
**Arlene Eakle's  
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Ancestors—Mostly  
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I'm skeptical of the 2% Pashtun result and the Mordovian? I don't know, but I haven't found anyone from those areas on my tree so far. None of the other companies have that estimate for me.

Living DNA points to Northern Ireland as the source of my Irish. I do have some Northern Irish roots. My Irish Great-Grandmother was from Galway Ireland, however. Living DNA didn't show the Irish Republic as a sub-region.

Living DNA was right in line with the other companies as far as my Native American estimate at 5%. They also estimated around 1.5% West African, which is right on tract with the other companies.

Below I compare my Living DNA results with other companies.

British Isles/ Ireland

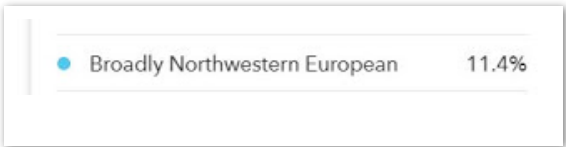
My maternal grandfather Charles Forgey was substantially Scots-Irish. He would represent a quarter of my ancestry. On my father's side I have just a trace of British Isles ancestry. One of my great-grandmother's was Irish from Galway, which would amount to the highest British/Irish on my father's side . I would say my British Isles/ Irish should be no more than half of my ancestry, considering one of my grandmother's was Nicaraguan, and another grandfather was Eastern European from Austria. The 68% Living DNA wouldn't be correct.



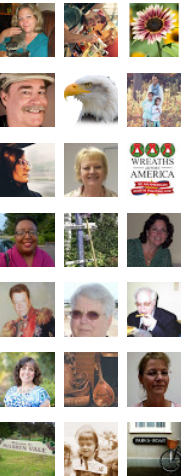
AncestryDNA



23andMe



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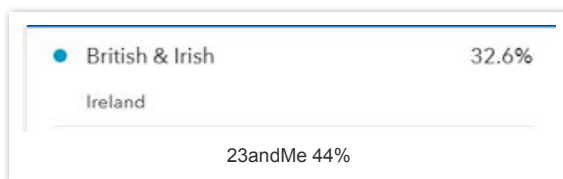
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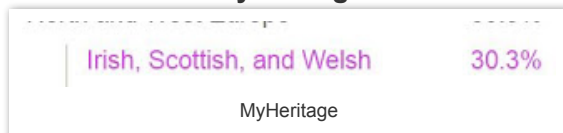
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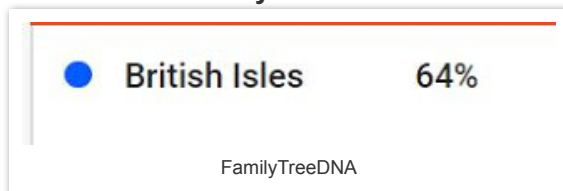
- ▼ 2020 (15)
  - ▼ November (2)
    - [Did My Great-Uncle Thomas Mullen Come To Ame...](#)
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  - March (2)
  - February (1)
  - January (1)
- 2019 (16)
- 2018 (22)
- 2017 (31)



### MyHeritage



### FamilyTreeDNA



## Eastern Europe

My grandfather Rudolph Kapple/Kappel was born in Austria. I've traced his family in Eastern Europe back around 300 years. The Living DNA estimate of 4.8% Eastern European would be too low. If they had also estimated some German ethnicity, in addition to that estimate, Living DNA's Eastern European would be more accurate.

### Living DNA



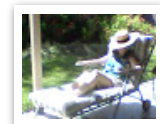
### AncestryDNA



### 23andMe

- 2016 (24)
- 2015 (30)
- 2014 (53)
- 2013 (59)
- 2012 (76)
- 2011 (94)

## About Me



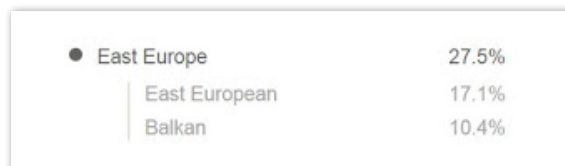
**Annette**

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## Feedjit



### MyHeritage



### FamilyTreeDNA



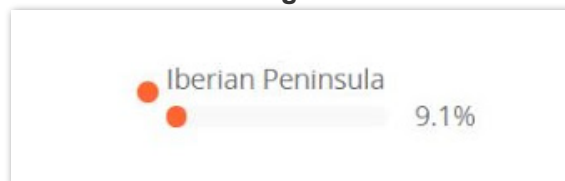
### DNA.Land



## Iberian/Southern European

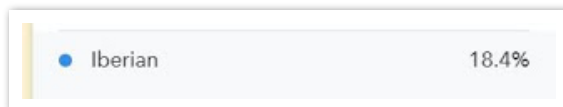
My grandmother Graciela Del Castillo was born in the Central American country of Nicaragua. Her ancestors had Spanish surnames such as Del Castillo, Garcia, Granizo, Alvarado, and Lacayo etc. Since I received around a quarter of my DNA from her I would have expected around 15% to 20% Iberian admixture, considering there is Native American and African admixture which would need to be taken into account too.

### Living DNA

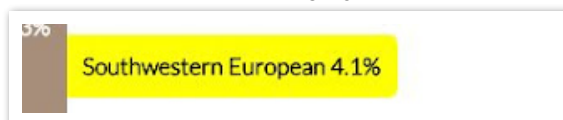


### AncestryDNA



**23andMe****MyHeritage****Familytree DNA**

No Iberian

**DNA.Land**

The Living DNA British Isles estimate is over estimated at 68%. It would definitely be under 50%, maybe around 40%. I know for certain my Nicaraguan grandmother didn't have British Isles ancestry, nor my Austrian grandfather. That would eliminate around 50% from British Isles consideration. Most companies are overestimating British Isles ancestry and underestimating less common admixtures. 23andMe is the best with the 44% British Isles/Irish estimate.

All of the companies have difficulty detecting Iberian and Eastern European. Again 23andMe is best. Some of my Eastern European ancestors were German. Combining 23andMe's French and German estimates with Eastern European would represent my Austrian grandfather's heritage percentage wise. The Iberian estimate at 23andMe would be more in line with my Nicaraguan grandmother's heritage.

Hopefully with more people testing from more places the Living DNA ethnicity results will become more accurate.

I'm looking forward to getting matches with Living DNA once they begin introducing matching sometime this year. As I understand it they will have a chromosome browser, which will help me collect more segments for my segment map.

You can upload your raw data from other companies to [Living DNA for free and receive matches](#) once this service is introduced. Living DNA's "One Family One World" project sounds like a great project to contribute your raw data to.

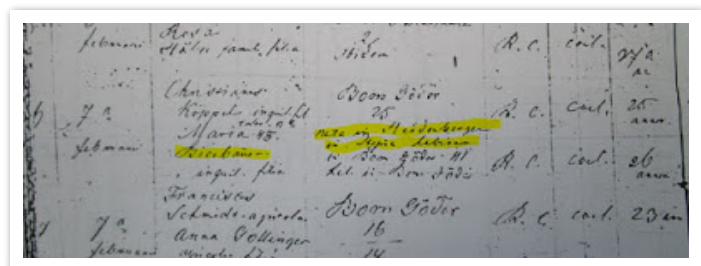
Posted by [Annette](#) at [9:41 AM](#)    No comments:   

Thursday, May 3, 2018

## A Final Resolution to a 20 Year Old Brickwall/ Or Not?

Church records for Styria, Austria are now online. I never expected to see these records online. I am now able to verify my Bierbauer/Wagner lines.

My family migrated to America from the village of Inzenhof which is in Burgenland Austria. They lived on the border between Austria and Hungary. Their church is now in Hungary, but their village is now in Austria. I was able to trace all the branches of my Kappel/Koppel family back to the late 1700's using the Felsorok, Hungary church records, except the Bierbauer and Wagner families. My ancestor Maria Bierbauer was born in 1850, and was said to have been born elsewhere according to her marriage record. Her parents were said to be Joseph Bierbauer and Juliana Wagner.



With this information I set out to find where Maria Bierbauer was born? I thought the record said she was born in Heidenbergen. I wasn't sure what the writing underneath said? At first I thought that was the name of the church. Thinking this village was in Burgenland I checked the names of all the villages at the Burgenland Bunch genealogy website. I didn't find an exact match, but a Hackerburg sounded like a possibility. After looking at the church film for that village, and not finding any Bierbauer/Wagners I gave up. After gaining more experience reading difficult writing a couple years later I determined the writing underneath the village said Styria, a different province in Austria. Styria neighbors the province of Burgenland. The word next to it may say Austria?

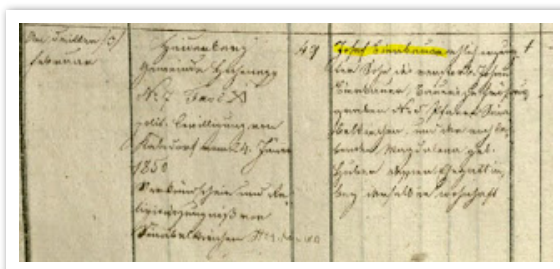
Now that I knew Heidenburgen was likely in Styria I looked at an Austrian Gazetteer, a place finding aid I learned about from my Irish research. The closest village name I could find was Heiderberg. I found this name in the footnotes on one of the pages. I found the parish for that area, but their records weren't online. I decided to write the Catholic archives in Graz, Styria, Austria. I decided to just ask for the marriage record for her parents Joseph Bierbauer and Maria Wagner. I received an email transcription of their marriage record. They were married 3 Feb 1850 in Ilz, Styria, Austria. Their daughter was said to have been born about 1850 according to her age on the marriage record. I didn't mention Heiderberg when I requested the marriage record, I just named the Parish as Ilz. I was excited to see what the transcription of the marriage record said.

*24-year-old Juliana Wagner, marital daughter of Josef Wagner, (Bergler u Webermeister z u Klim, parish Sinabelkirchen) and the Barbara geb. Schober (deceased), lives in Heiderberg, community Hochenegg 49.*

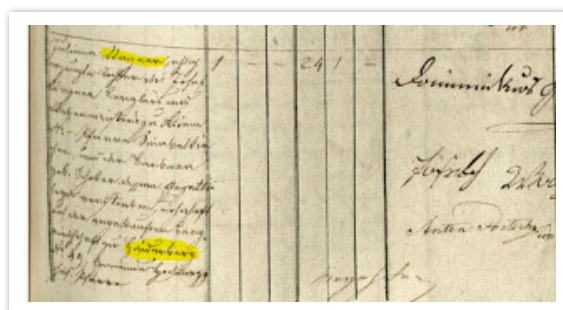
This seemed to be confirmation that I had the right place, and right couple, because Juliana was from Heiderberg. I wanted a copy of the actual record plus more documentation. I was told that anymore research would cost 50 euros per hour. That was not affordable for me at that time. That was in 2003. A couple weeks ago I learned **Sytrian Church record books were now online**. I immediately began researching these books even though it was late at night, and I needed to get up early.



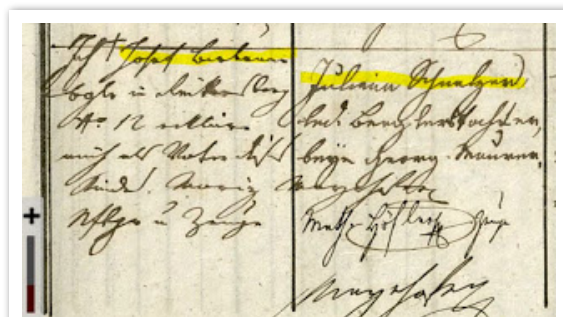
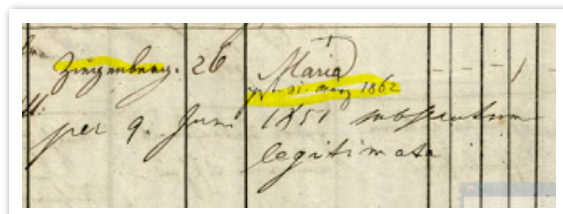
Dr. Norbert Allmer's 2003 marriage transcript came in handy. I would never guess the name in the record I found was Bierbauer. The transcript was key to finding the record. I highlighted Josef Bierbauer's name below. The German script B looked like a C to me. The name also has the ending -in. This ending is typical of surnames in these records.



Wagner and Heidenberg were difficult for me to read in the marriage record portion about Juliana. Actually everything in her entry was indecipherable, because of the unique German Script writing. I needed the transcript.

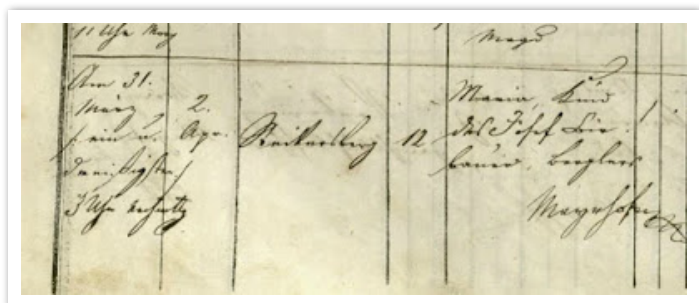


I was now able to look for my ancestor Maria Bierbauer's birth record. Now knowing what Bierbauer written in script looked like it would be easier for me to find that record. I found a Maria Bierbauer born 1851 to a Joseph Bierbauer and Juliana, and what could be Wagner?, and what appeared to be Heiderberg?. I was excited until I saw the cross over her name. From my earlier research in Felsoronok records I knew this meant she had died. If she died much later in Inzenhof I would not expect a notation like this. Looking more closely it gave her date of death as 31 March 1862. She couldn't be my ancestor if this was correct.

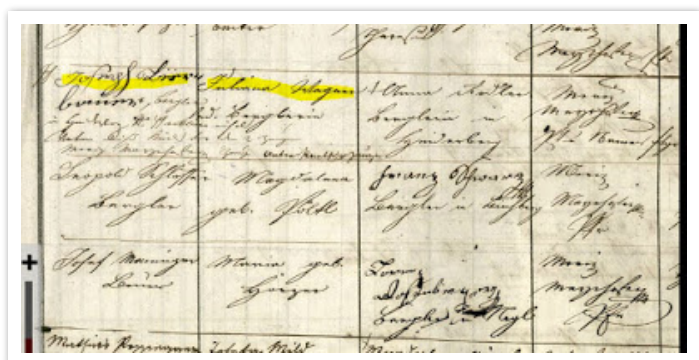
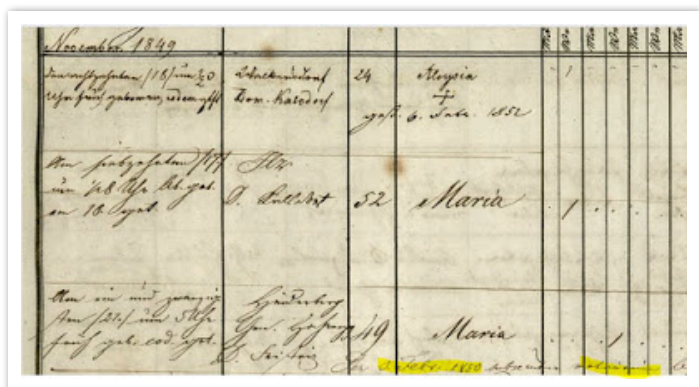


I checked the death record book to see if she really did die in 1862; if she did maybe there are some coincidences and these aren't my ancestors?

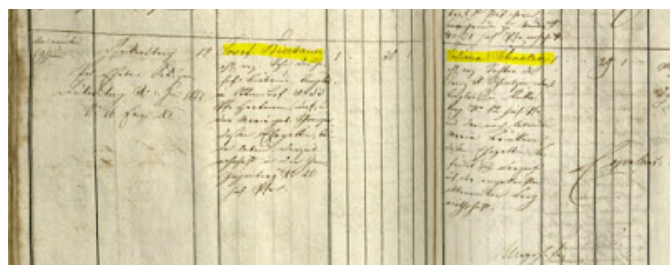
Yes, after finding Maria's death record it confirmed she did die in 1862, at age 12, on the date written on her birth record. Catching on somewhat to the German script now the village didn't look like Heiderberg.



Going back to her birth record I noticed there is a note stating she was made legitimate by the marriage of her parents in June of 1851. My Joseph Bierbauer and Juliana Wagner married in February of 1850. I was not seeing any Maria's born to this couple after their marriage so I checked before their marriage. I hit the correct Maria this time because a note stated that she was made legitimate by her parents February 1850 marriage, and this Maria was indeed born in Heiderberg. Her mother's surname was indeed Wagner.



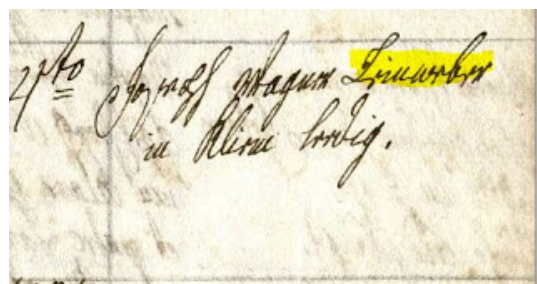
I wanted to make sure that there was another Joseph Bierbauer who married a Juliana in June 1851. I did find such a couple. Below is the marriage record for Joseph Bierbauer who coincidentally also married a Juliana, and had a daughter Maria, all around the same time as my ancestors married and had a daughter Maria.



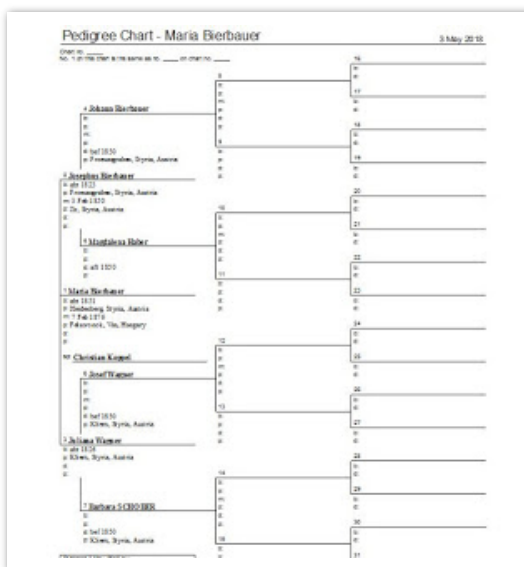
My unfamiliarity with these different handwriting styles initially tripped me up misreading Maria Bierbauer's marriage record and her birth entry. If the other Maria hadn't died I would have recorded the information for the wrong person. That was a bit of a scare thinking I might have to start my search for Maria's family elsewhere again.

Being a beginner reading German Script I will need to proceed more slowly and carefully.

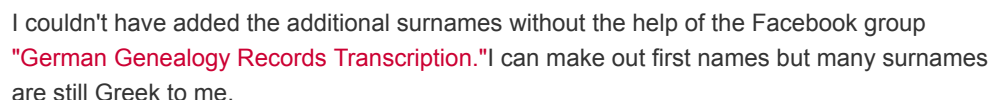
I'm now tracing these families farther back. I found Joseph Wagner's birth record. According to his birth record his father, also named Joseph, was a Leinweber or Linen weaver. According to Juliana Wagner's marriage record her father Joseph was a Webermeister, or master weaver. So weaving was a family trade.



This is what I had for Maria Bierbauer's family before using the Austrian church records.



This is what I have two weeks after reviewing records online:



I'm visiting Austria in a few weeks and I was planning on visiting the archives to do research. I was looking for the archives address when I found these records online. Now I realize I wouldn't have been able to read the records in the archives. The German script takes getting used to. Now I don't need to take time away from sightseeing. It will take me some time to continue to learn how to read German script so I can trace more lines back. I will be inching my way back.

Posted by **Annette** at **5:14 PM**      No comments: 

Monday, April 30, 2018

Courthouse Research



I live in Southern California far from where my ancestors lived. From around the early 1800's most of my American ancestors lived in the Midwest and Kentucky. My families didn't settle in California until the 1920's and 1940's. Their 20th Century departure from the Midwest mean all of the records I need in order to extend my family tree are far from where I live. Many are now online through FamilySearch, but many still haven't been scanned.



My first trip to the Midwest was only last year with my visit to Chicago. My second visit to the Midwest was last week, which was a visit to my grandfather Charles Lynn Forgey's birthplace in Jackson County, Indiana. His ancestors first settled in Indiana around 1814 to about 1830.



I have quite a bit of information on the Forgey family and collateral lines because many of his relatives lived in the area until recently, and we still have relatives in Indiana. I had wanted to see the area and visit family grave sites for years. I also have a very stubborn brickwall on my ancestor Sarah Campbell's, line she was born around 1812. I have not been able to link her to any family. I decided to go through court records to see if I could find any, heretofore, unidentified Campbells living in Jackson County. Last year I had found one Campbell, named James T., who could be a relative of hers, but haven't been able to prove a relationship.

Sarah's husband Anderson Wray had been in court over a case of trespass and battery in the 1830's. I thought if I could find the full case, instead of just the court order book reference, I might find a Campbell witness? Also I was interested in adding anything new about any of my families in Jackson County.

When I got to the courthouse I noticed a new judicial center being built behind the 19th Century courthouse. I walked passed it on my way inside where I made a beeline to the County Clerk's office to ask if there were any old court records from the 1830's onward. The Clerk said yes they did have records from that time period. We went down into the basement where boxes were stacked everywhere. We had to wind our way around them. The clerk told me these were boxes of files being sent for scanning after which the documents inside would be shredded. I asked if the scanned documents would be online for the public to use? She said probably not. I asked if the old documents would be scanned, she said it would cost too much to scan those, and the old documents would probably be disposed of at some point because the cost of storing them would be too expensive. That scared me and made my job of combing through the old records seem critical to accomplish asap.



The scanning project is an outgrowth of the building project I passed. The county clerk's office is moving over there when the building is completed sometime later this year, and there isn't room for all of these documents.

After walking through the box maze we found ourselves in front of these file drawers. At this point the clerk explains finding anything in the early court records is like finding a needle in a haystack, because the 30 or so metal file drawers, with the court records ranging from 1815 to about 1875, aren't in any order whatsoever. Most drawers are only labeled old circuit court records or old criminal court records. Some have date ranges. All of this is deceiving



because even those labeled boxes contain mixed civil and criminal cases, and mixed years.



At this point the clerk said she would leave me to it. I then knew I would have to do my best to sort through around 30 drawers, document by document, to find anything. These old drawers were scattered among the numbered drawers, which were created after they adopted the system of numbering cases sometime in the 1870's. If the drawers were all in the same area the task would have been a little easier.

After starting I realized I needed to keep track of the boxes I already searched. Seeing the chalk on the boxes I thought that was a great idea, and was sorry I didn't bring chalk. I didn't want to write with permanent ink on the labels, although it wouldn't have harmed anything. I decided to just use a torn piece of paper placed in the label frame.

I was at first hesitant to remove the documents from the drawers while searching. I would just lift up a handful and go through them one by one. I then thought since they aren't in order I could just pull enough out to create space to flip through these tightly packed drawers more quickly.

Below you can see how tightly packed the drawers are. You can also see my snack bag which is another necessity when it comes to long hours at the courthouse. Lucky there is a restroom in the basement so I didn't have to waste much time for bathroom breaks. Lucky the restroom was close to wash my hands. I had been looking through documents for hours before I noticed my hands were black. I guess they turned black from the old ink?



I kept the trash can by the table to swish the broken off pieces of old brittle paper into, as you can see above.

Looking through the records I found some dating back to before Indiana was a state and marked Territory North of the Ohio River. I found a marriage bond from the 1820's, and cut out newspaper articles were attached to some documents like the one below. You will also notice the scratch on the table created by the sharp edge of the a metal drawer. The table was all scratched up.



I found a number of documents bound together with either string or ribbon. Bundles of documents with ribbon generally dated back to the 1850's and 1860's. Not sure if they were red and faded to pink? Took me a minute to figure out how to unwrap these document.

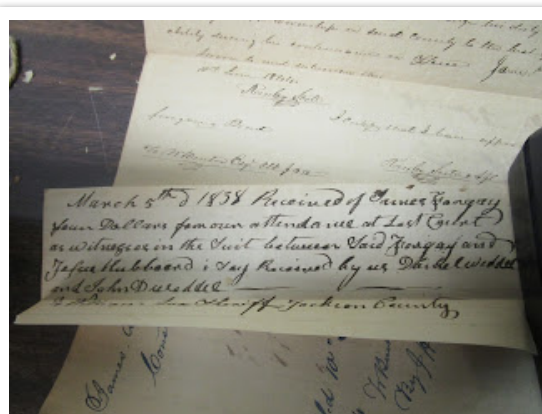
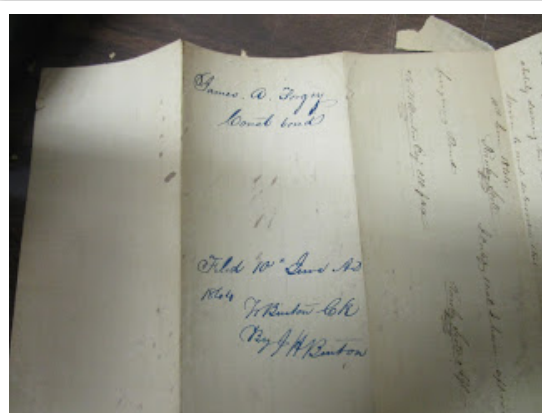


The ribbon became a way for me to quickly date the enclosed documents if a date wasn't visible. Another way to identify documents quickly was the color of the paper. Blue paper was used in the 1850's and 1860's.

Sadly I didn't find the rest of the Anderson Wray court case. Comparing the court order books cases from the 1830's to those in the file drawers many would seem to be missing. Either they were disposed of years ago or it's possible people walked off with some of them. With no one supervising the researchers so it would be easy to just walk out with them.

I did find ancestors in the records which was rewarding for me. I had known about a court case involving the probable brother of my ancestor Andrew Forgey. I have not been able to prove this man James A. Forgey is his brother, but I think the fact they migrated to the same place from the same place, and their close ages would suggest that. I found several court records for James A. Forgey. These records confirm he did indeed live in the same township, Carr, as his likely brother Andrew Forgey. He would later migrate to a different county. According to one record I found he was a constable for Carr township. He was sued by Jesse Hubbard for slander in the 1830's. His witness list doesn't include Andrew Forgey ? The list does include another ancestor of mine Anderson Wray and his uncle William Harrison. These men were neighbors of Andrew Forgey putting them all in the same area and strengthening the case that these two Forgeys were brothers.

I guess I was meant to find that case because when I opened the first drawer James A. Forgey's case file was sticking up. The case file didn't contain any additional information about the slander. It did contain the names of witnesses and receipts for payment of the witnesses.



Day 2 I arrived to find most of the maze of boxes gone. I also found a policeman in the basement, gun holster and all moving the remaining boxes. He was telling the clerk all this paper would make a great bonfire. No she said it had to be shredded. I was like holy mother of god I hope they don't move the old files for at least 3 more days. I then thought they are just taking these boxes to be scanned and I'm safe.

On that day I found a case I didn't know about for my ancestor Richard Browning. I knew this

was the correct Richard Browning when I saw the list of witnesses. As you see below the documents were folded and the case information written on the back of the outer document. The early case descriptions often just contained the names of the plaintiff and defendant. Criminal cases were recorded as the State of Indiana vs defendant. By about 1850 much more information appeared on this cover document. The cover by then was a printed standardized document. It often contained the names of witnesses as in the Richard Browning case below.

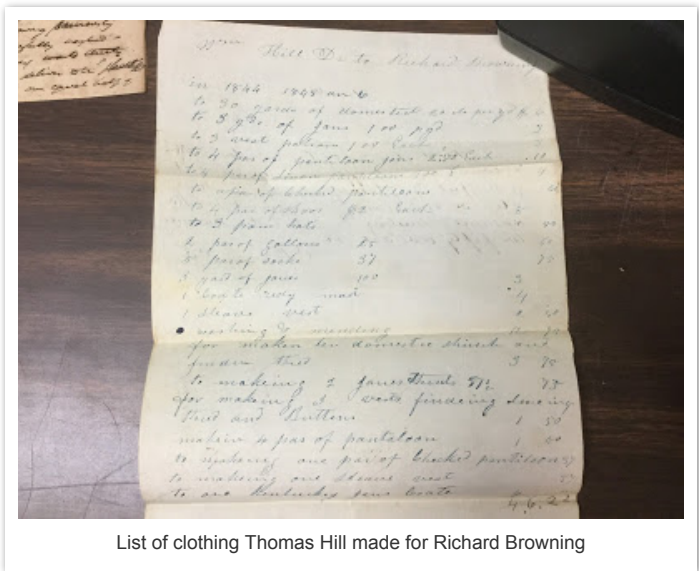
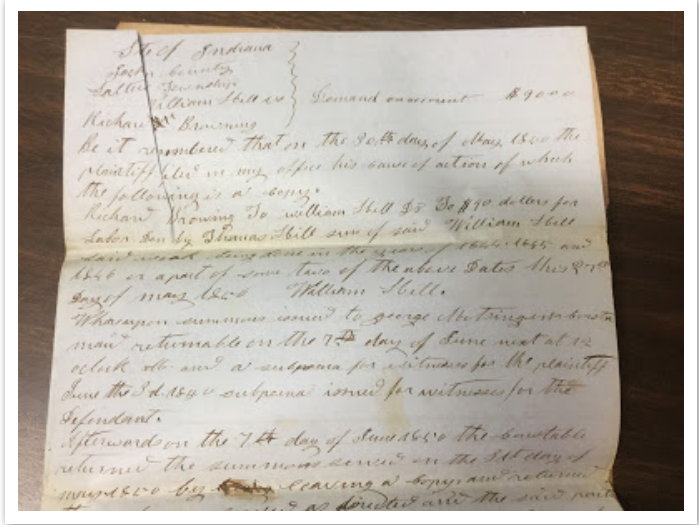
The witnesses on the subpoena below are Richard's in-laws and neighbors in the tiny community of Salt Creek. Ira Cornett appear on the summons. Richard Browning was buried in Cornett Grove Cemetery. Witnesses names can be helpful when it come to identifying a persons friends and relations for further research.



Apparently Richard didn't pay young Mr. Thomas Hill, son and apprentice to his father William, for crafting clothing, such as pantaloons, vests, and shoes etc. in the years 1844 to 1846. He waited until 1850 to sue for some reason? He was asking for the astronomical sum of \$90, which might be the equivalent of \$2,000 today. Clothing must of have extremely expensive in the 1840's?

Some witness testimony is included for this case. John Brewer stated under oath that the boy's work was worth \$3.00 a month. Thomas Shelton's testimony stated that "the boy's work was worth \$5 a month." Alfred Brewer stated he "awferred the Boy fore dollar a month to work for him." Richard's in-law William Winkler "swore that Browning wanted a receipt from Wm. Hill and Hill objected to it." Misses Winkler swore that "Wm Hill said that Thomas mite doe as he pleases with a suit that was pending before Squire Gobles for the same work."





List of clothing Thomas Hill made for Richard Browning

It appears Thomas Hill worked for Richard from the age 14 to the age 16 according to the 1850 Census.

William Hill	18				
Thomas Hill	14				
Richard Browning	16				
William Hill	18				
Thomas Hill	14				
Richard Browning	16				
William Hill	18				
Thomas Hill	14				
Richard Browning	16				

When I visited the Cornett Grove Cemetery with my distant Forgey cousin, Nan, we noticed a tombstone with the name Hill on it. The beautiful design with the opening pearly gates caught our eye. I had forgotten already that Richard was sued by a Hill. The Hill monument near Richard's grave is likely for a members of the Thomas Hill family.





I found a few other cases for my families which I still need to go through. Apparently Richard Browning was sued again years later over the slaughter of a pig. I found several divorce cases, but none for my own family. There were a few murder cases. The notorious Reno family, this family gang was the first in history to rob a train, was well represented in the surviving court records. They were involved in robbery and gaming cases.

I researched in the Courthouse for a few hours everyday for 4 days. I didn't get a chance to look through some of the other books and files in the basement. The estray books could contain some helpful information. The probate files may also have information not scanned by FamilySearch? There were notary books also, but I believe they are more recent? Sadly there is no inventory of all the old records in the basement.

I'm hoping moving all of those old records will be too much trouble? If they have to dispose of them I hope they can first be scanned by maybe FamilySearch? And or go to the State Archives? The local genealogy and historical society doesn't have space for all of those records. I'm hoping they don't move these records this year, anyway, so I have another crack at them in the fall?





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Posted by [Annette](#) at [3:31 PM](#)    [5 comments:](#)    

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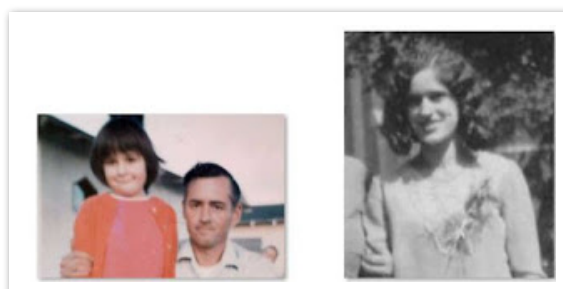
# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

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Sunday, July 8, 2018

## Inferring Burgenland Ethnicity Using DNA and Surnames



From top left to bottom: me, and my father Robert Kapple, my great-aunt Bertha Kappel-Solomon, my grandfather Rudolph Kapple

I began my genealogy research to find out more about my grandfather Rudolph Kapple's roots. I had never met him because he died in Chicago when I was 7 years old. My father's parents divorced and my grandmother moved with her children to California where I was born, and raised. As a matter of fact my first trip to Chicago was last year. I've always regretted never meeting this grandfather, and asked family about him. Even though my father sided with his mother in the divorce he still loved his father. When he heard of his death he



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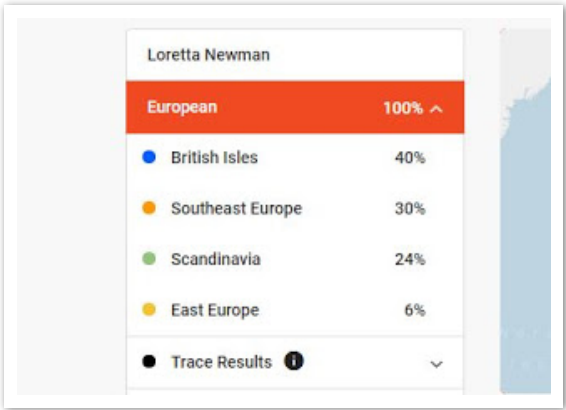
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was very broken up I remember. I remember him telling me about a tour of a steel mill he took with his father, which was a fond memory for him. That whetted my appetite for more.

I was always told Kapple, or Kappel as some of our family spell it, was a Jewish surname. That's the only thing I knew about the family. I didn't know where the family came from? My Grandfather's death certificate said he was born in Australia. I had thought to start searching there, but my grandmother had some research done which pointed to Austria, and not Australia, as his place of birth. I read the book **"My Sixteen"** which has instructions on researching immigrant ancestors. I ordered the documents suggested, and looked at census records which were on microfilm at that time, and not yet on the internet. Once I found the name of their village I looked the village name up on the internet, which took me to the Burgenland Bunch. This group led me to church records. The spelling of the name in the old country turned out to be Köppel. I was surprised to find the Köppel's in the Catholic Church records going back to 1785. The surname Köppel seemed even more Ashkenazi related. I figured maybe they converted to Catholicism?

I had a Kapple male first cousin take the Y-DNA test; his result turned out to be in the J-172 haplogroup. Many people of Jewish ethnicity tend to be in that haplogroup, so I thought this was further confirmation that we were indeed Ashkenazi on our Kapple line. I looked up the surname Kurta on a Holocaust database site, and Kurta came up. I thought maybe the Kurta surname origins were also Ashkenazi?

I thought I had it all figured out. We were substantially Ashkenazi Catholic converts? I was in for a big surprise when my autosomal ethnicity results came in. Zero Ashkenazi. I had an aunt and first cousin tested to confirm these autosomal results. My cousin came out with a trace amount of Ashkenazi, and my aunt zero. FTDNA predicted my aunt to be around 30% Southeast European, and 6% Eastern European. That would seem to account for part of the 50% of DNA she would have inherited from her Burgenland born father.



My own ethnicity predictions are around 4%-6% Eastern European on most of the tests. AncestryDNA gives me a range of 0-12% Middle Eastern, which could point to some possible Ashkenazi ancestry? My Aunt has 1.1% Ashkenazi ethnicity at MyHeritage.

It seems like much of my grandfather Kapple's ethnicity is missing from these tests, everyone in my family who has tested seems have a chunk of missing ethnicity from the Kapple side. British Isles and Western Europe seem to be over estimated.

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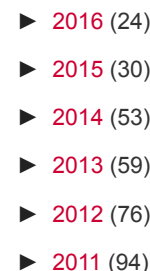
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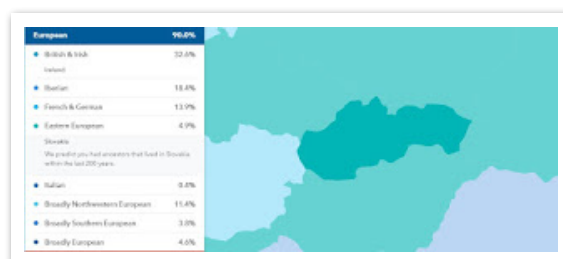
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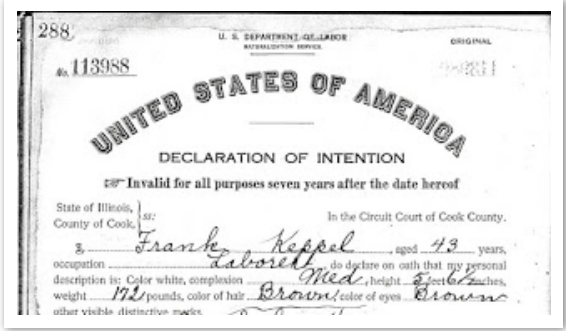


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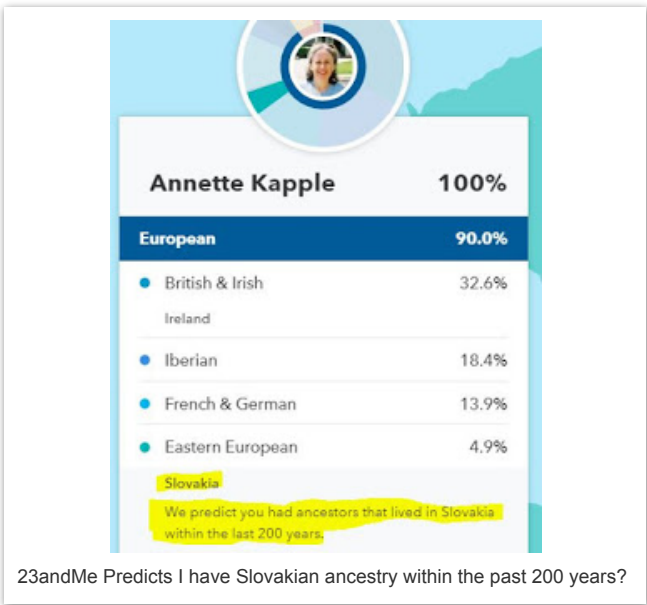


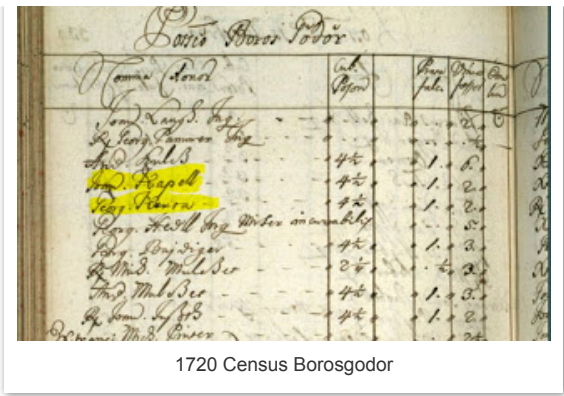


Interesting that I did see a few more people in Slovakia that looked like us, with darker features. Our tour guide in Bratislava, Slovakia had darker features, more like our Kappe side of the family. I was beginning to think the Slovakian estimate was correct.



I've since looked at a list from 1720 and there was a Kurta already in Borogodor at that time. 23andMe states that I probably have ties to Slovakia within the past 200 years. Looks like it would be more than 200 years ago, more like 300 years or more, since a Kurta was in the Borosgodor area in 1720. If Muik is the source of the admixture it's possible they migrated to Borosgodor at a later time?





Slovakia is mixed ethnically because it was part of the multi-ethnic Hapsburg Empire. There are signs in 3 languages on the old pharmacy in Bratislava, photo below. Instead of my family being from Slovakia it may be that the mixed Hungarian ethnicity of the people of that country is throwing our ethnicity prediction off? It could also be that some of the people who settled in Inzenhof were from Slovakia?

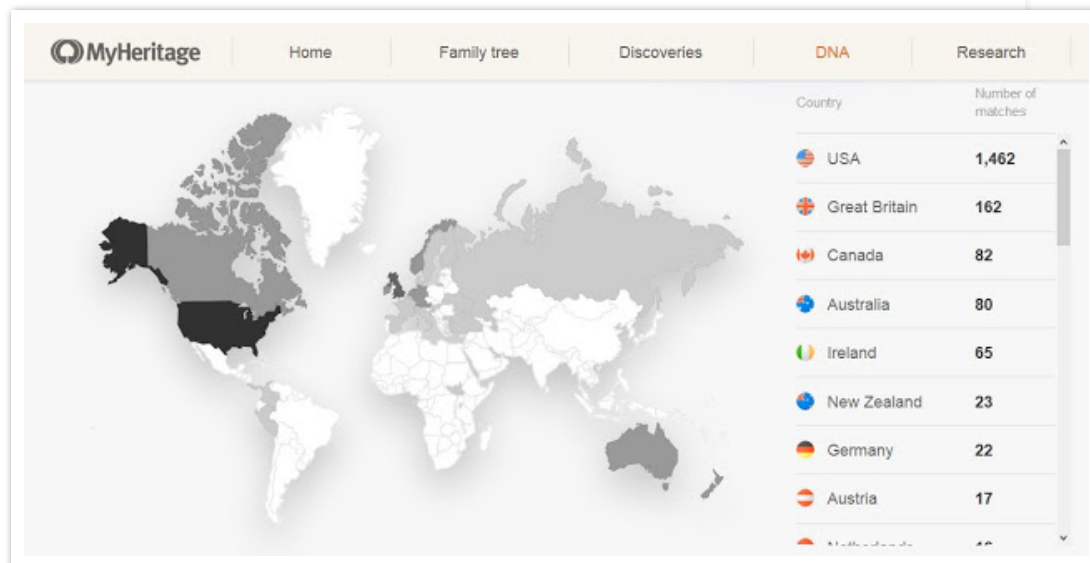


Kurta indeed appears to be a Hungarian surname. I marked all of our Kappel side surnames according to there likely ethnic origins. Nearly all of the others appear to be Germanic.

Index of Names		5 July 2018
BERBAUER Johann (b. 1772) ... 1 Josef ... 1 Joseph (b. 1821) ... 1 Maria (b. 1840) ... 1	<b>GERMANIC</b>	Maria (b. 1879) ... 1 Petrus (b. 1822) ... 1
FUSZMAN Eva (b. 1791) ... 1	<b>GERMANIC</b>	MAYR Elizabeth ... 1
GLEISDORFER Klara ... 1	<b>GERMANIC</b>	MEIK Anna (b. 1825) ... 1 Stephan (b. 1797) ... 1
HAMMERL Andreas (b. 1739) ... 1 Margaretha (b. 1793) ... 1	<b>AUSTRIAN</b>	ROTTENSTUMMER Catharina (b. 1752) ... 1
HUBER Leopold ... 1 Margdalena (b. 1881) ... 1	<b>GERMANIC</b>	SCHÖBER Barbara (b. 1788) ... 1 Michael ... 1
JOSZT Anna (b. 1855) ... 1 Catharina ... 1 Georgius (b. 1790) ... 1 Joseph (b. 1822) ... 1	<b>GERMANIC</b>	SCHUCHAR Andreas ... 1 Anna (b. 1816) ... 1
KAPPEL OR KOPPEL Frank (b. 1876) ... 1	<b>GERMANIC</b>	TAKER Barbara (b. 1774) ... 1
KAPPEL Rudolph Christian (b. 1899) ... 1	<b>GERMANIC</b>	TRUEBER Theresa ... 1
KOPPEL Andreas (b. 1780) ... 1 Christian (b. 1850) ... 1 James (b. 1806) ... 1	<b>ASHKENAZI</b>	WAGNER Anna ... 1 Josef ... 1 Josef (b. 1789) ... 1 Juliana (b. 1821) ... 1
KURTA Antal (b. 1789) ... 1 James (b. 1852) ... 1 Maria (b. 1802) ... 1	<b>HUNGARIAN?</b>	WOLF Georgius (b. 1791) ... 1 Maria (b. 1823) ... 1
		ZIMMITS Maria ... 1
		<b>GERMANIC</b>

Surnames can be adopted for various reasons and don't always reflect a persons ethnicity. I do think the surname Kurta is a clue that line is an ethnic mixture of Germanic and Hungarian.

Looking at all the information provided by the DNA companies I would say the origins of matches, especially close matches, is more informative than the ethnicity results alone. The fact my aunt and I have Austrian matches seems significant since my mother, who has no Austrian ancestry, doesn't have any is a clue to our origins. My aunt has 17 matches with Austrian ancestry. If I didn't know families origins at all I would look more closely at the origins of matches.



I absolutely loved Bratislava and would love to find an ancestral connection to Slovakia. It could be we just share a common Hungarian ancestry? I may never know for sure? At this point I would say my Burgenland family is a mixture of Eastern European and Germanic ethnicity.





Posted by **Annette** at **8:55 AM**

No comments:



Friday, June 29, 2018

## Mapping The Addresses of Burgenland Austro/Hungarian Ancestors

Now that I've visited the village of Inzenhof, Austria where my grandfather Rudolph Kapple, and many of our ancestors had lived, I am more curious about their living situation. How close were the houses where my ancestral couples lived before they married? The early houses were all fairly close together, but some were a block or two away from the others. Below you can see the village of Inzenhof from an aerial view. All of the early homes were mainly clustered near the present Kurta Gasthaus, Fire Department, and School.



I would think everyone in such a small village would have known one another, but there were about 600 people living there when my ancestors lived there. Even with a smaller population,



now around 300, not everyone knows each other as I discovered on my visit. I was thinking proximity probably played a role when it came to the marriages of my ancestors? Were they neighbors?

I had no way to plot out the addresses of my ancestors until Werner at the **Official Facebook Burgenland Group** provided me with some links to GEO Data sites. I used the GEO Daten Burgenland site to plot the addresses of my ancestors, and their neighbors in Inzenhof: <https://geodaten.bgld.gv.at/de/home.html>

How close did the couples live to marriage partners?

They were not next door neighbors as I was thinking. Here you see Christian Koppel and Marie Bierbauer who married in 1876; they lived a block or two away from each other.



My great-grandparents Frank Kappel and Maria Kurta married in 1898 in Pennsylvania. They both were from Inzenhof, but weren't next door neighbors either.



Maria Kurta-Kappel's parents lived about the same distance apart as the other couples, not next door neighbors either.





Even though the couples didn't live next door they did live in the same village. Interesting that they tended to marry within the same village even though other villages were close by. Maybe it's because each village had its own church? Since the principle gathering place was the church for events and masses that is likely where people got to know more distant neighbors, and these couples met. Also I am thinking if I traced the extended families I would find a web of relationships with neighbors I'm not familiar with. These relationships probably also led to matches with more distant neighbors. I'm not sure about how much schooling my family had? They likely would also have met contemporaries at school if they attended?

I also used the GEO Data site to mark some of the Inzenhof houses. I mainly used the [village list](#) at the Burgenland Bunch website. It's been interesting getting to know the village better.

### Mid 19th Century Inzenhof Village Tenants

The Geo Data map shows house numbers in blue, and what seem to be tract numbers for the land in white. I added the names from the village list dating from around 1859.

It's interesting to compare the names of villagers in 1720 with these later descendants. You can view the 1720 Census list for Borosgodor [here](#).













Posted by Annette at 9:42 PM

No comments:



Tuesday, June 12, 2018

## A Visit to Southern Burgenland/ Mission Accomplished

<p>1. Anna Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>2. Christian Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>3. Frank Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>4. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>5. Rudolf Christian Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>6. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>7. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>8. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>9. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>10. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p>	<p>11. Anna Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>12. Christian Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>13. Frank Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>14. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>15. Rudolf Christian Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>16. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>17. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>18. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>19. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>20. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p>	<p>21. Anna Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>22. Christian Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>23. Frank Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>24. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>25. Rudolf Christian Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>26. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>27. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>28. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>29. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>30. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p>	<p>31. Anna Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>32. Christian Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>33. Frank Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>34. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>35. Rudolf Christian Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>36. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>37. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>38. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>39. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p> <p>40. Maria Kappel b. 10 Dec 1810 d. 10 Dec 1810 Burgenland, Austria</p>
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After years of research I finally made it to Inzenhof, Burgenland, Austria. This was the finale to my goal of visiting the places where my grandparents were born. I first traveled to Granada, Nicaragua, in 2015, where my maternal grandmother Graciela Del Castillo was born. A couple years later I made it to Chicago where my grandmother Dorothy Mason was born in 1909. A few months ago I visited Brownstown, Indiana where my grandfather



Charles Forgey was born in 1898. I finally made it to Inzenhof where my Grandfather Rudolph Kapple was born in 1909. He was born during a visit back by my great-grandmother Maria Kurta . She was visiting her father Johann Kurta and family. She had been living in Pennsylvania. When she returned to America, with her children in 1910, she joined her husband Frank Kappel (Köppel) who had migrated to Chicago. His father, Christian Köppel, and Maria's father, Johann Kurta, had both made trips to America, but appear to be among the 22% of immigrants who returned to Burgenland after spending time working in America.

I put off the visit to Inzenhof, and the Güssing area, because traveling there is more of a challenge. Not only is it there a 12 hour flight from Los Angeles, California but it's also at least a few hours, by public transportation, from the nearest airport. There is limited public transportation to the area. Taking public transportation to the nearest larger hub town involves taking trains to buses, which don't run frequently and require several transfers.

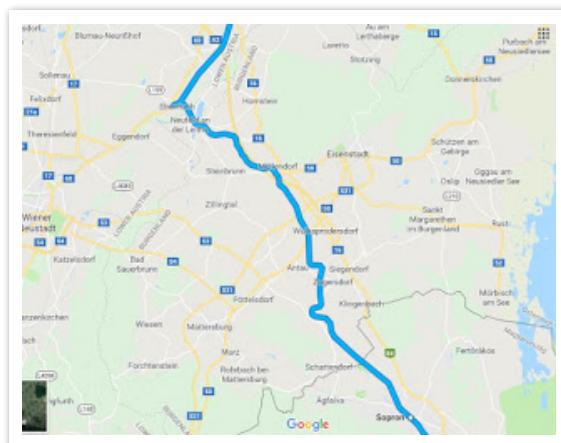
I've always wanted to visit Salzburg and Vienna, Austria. I decided to add the trip to southern Burgenland to that itinerary. Since getting to Burgenland from Vienna was a bit complicated for a first time visitor I decided to begin the trip with a structured 10 day Trafalgar bus tour, which would take care of all the trip details, leaving me to navigate my way through Burgenland on my own more rested. This tour began in Munich for a couple nights, moved on to Oberammergau for another two nights, continued to Salzburg for another two nights, then ended in Vienna. I stayed a few additional days in Vienna before moving on to my hotel in Güssing, Burgenland. Güssing is the closest area to Inzenhof with hotel accommodations.

### The Trip to Güssing and Inzenhof from Vienna

I took 3 trains from Vienna to Alsorok in Hungary, which is only 9 miles from Güssing. There are several routes and trains that stop within easy taxi distance from Güssing. It costs around 35 euros to travel from Alsorok to Güssing by taxi.



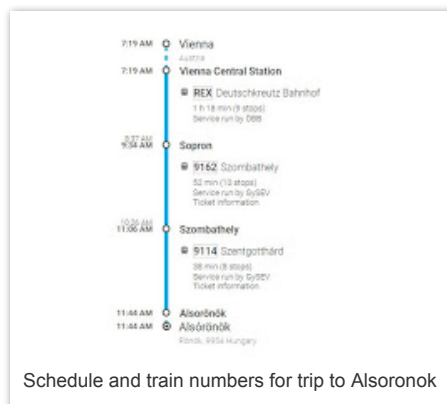
Below you can see the route my trains took to Alsorok. Depending on the route the Trains take and the time the connections meet it can take 3 and a half, to 4 hours, to travel from Vienna to Inzenhof (the fastest way to get anywhere in Burgenland would be to rent a car in Vienna or Graz). Unless you're lucky enough to have a train stop near your Burgenland ancestral area it can be time consuming to make the journey from the airports to the area. The tricky part when it comes to visiting Burgenland is transportation and lack of accommodations in sparsely populated areas.



Google maps has simplified visiting Burgenland by providing train and bus schedules. Just



enter where you are traveling from and where you're going , click the public transportation icon and travel options will be presented. **Austrian rail OBB** also provides schedules at their website, and the ability to buy tickets online.



All of the trains are modern, comfortable, clean, and have WC's (restrooms). All trains have mounted screens providing stop information and train arrival times.

#### Traveling through Northern Burgenland before crossing into Hungary





Crossing into Hungary, from northern Burgenland, Austria, Austrian border guards patrol outside the train, but do not board. Passport checks aren't required when traveling through EU countries.



### **Traveling through western Hungary**

We traveled through some beautiful Hungarian countryside on our way to Alsóronok. I saw a beautiful stork in flight too.



Taxi Roni picked me up at the train station in Alsóronok. Taxi driver Ronald Vajda can speak English so I would recommend using his taxi service if you don't speak German. He is also reliable so even if you do speak German, I would still recommend him.





The taxi took me to Güssing through the back road leading past our family church St. Emmerich. This little known route is shorter.

#### **Crossing the Border from Hungary into Austria**



Here we are at the border with signs with the Hungarian flag on one side and the Austrian flag on the other

#### **Arrival in Güssing**

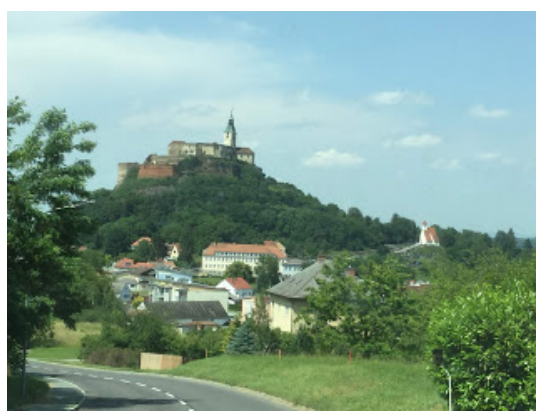
Once I got to Güssing everything was simple. I stayed at the Aktivpark hotel, which is part of a sports and fitness complex. I was happy with this hotel which provided a free breakfast, wifi, and had a restaurant and bar. The accommodations were modern and clean.





Within easy walking distance to the town center the location of the hotel was very convenient for me since I didn't have a car. I was able to explore the area, which has some nice restaurants, cafes, a theater and grocery stores along with historic buildings. Burg Güssing dominates the hill which the town is built around.

After dumping my stuff at the hotel I took a leisurely stroll around Güssing.







I then stopped at a grocery store and bought a drink, and a snack (jelly filled cookies). Nice grocery store with many yummy options.



The taxi driver, Ronald's, English was very good but I did encounter a language barrier more frequently here than in Vienna where more people could speak English.

The next morning I woke up to the sound of church bells. It was for Corpus Christi a Catholic feast day, and Austrian National holiday. You can watch the procession I videoed below.

### Corpus Christi Gussing, Burgenland, Austria 2018



### First Official Visit to Inzenhof

After the morning Corpus Christi festivities I headed to Inzenhof, about 4 miles away, with Taxi Roni, to look up the house numbers I collected from the Felsoronok church records. This was much more complex than I expected because the house numbers are in random order. Apparently they were numbered as they were built, so house number 5 can be next door to house number 111. Not the tract numbering system I'm used to.

Taxi driver Ronald spotted a man walking his dog. He asked about the house numbers and this man turned out to be the man we needed. This man delivered newspapers to the area and knew how to find the houses I was looking for. I really appreciated his helpfulness.



Below is house number 3. My Kurta ancestors lived for a time at number 3. Kurtas still live in the house. I'm not certain if this is an old house? This may either be the renovated house my ancestor Johann Kurta and wife raised their children in, or a newer house? I believe it probably does sit on the land the original house sat on, if it doesn't contain any parts of the original house?



My ancestor Christian Köppel's family home/property is more difficult to establish. Our local guide asked the current residents of house number 25 if Köppel's lived in that house? They said a Christian Köppel lived in another house. Because of the language barrier I was not able to understand if they were talking about another Christian Köppel? They stated Christian married a woman in the United States. My Christian did go to the US, but seemed to return to Austria? I really don't know what happened to him? His son, my ancestor Frank, stayed in the US, but I didn't see his father with him, or around him, in Census records? I'm not sure when Christian's wife, my ancestor, Maria Bierbauer died, it's possible he could have remarried in the US?

They seemed to be saying that someone named Köppel was living in Vienna now?

I'm not sure when the current residents of 25 moved into that house? I should have asked. I believe the fact Christian's family lived in the house so long ago the locals no longer have any knowledge of the Köppel's ownership of the house or land?

Like house number 3 the house may have be a renovated older home, or a much newer build.



Christian Köppel later took over his Bierbauer in-laws property at number 111. The Bierbauers relocated to Inzenhof in the mid 19th century and likely built a house then, which is why the number is so much higher than Johann Kurta at number 3.

A Köppel is currently living at house number 24, which the residents at house number 25 pointed out. Apparently this is a longtime Köppel household. It's associated with a Christian Köppel, which I believe is a younger man than my Christian? I do think they are related to my family.

Since we no longer spell our name Köppel I had no idea how the name should be pronounced. We now spell and pronounce the name Kapple. Our original surname should be pronounced K-Opal, as the local residents explained. They didn't recognize Kapple, as a local family. Once they understood what my surnames were they stated there were many Köppel's and Kurtas in the area historically, and currently there still are a number of Kurtas.

One of the residents of number 25 called a Köppel to ask her how my family fit into to the local area. My family having left so long ago little is known of them. The residents of the area were aware of the fact some of the Köppels went America, but weren't sure exactly where they lived or how they connected with current residents?







The house at 111 is definitely a newer home. It isn't built in the traditional local style. Unfortunately the owner wasn't home because his wife died recently.

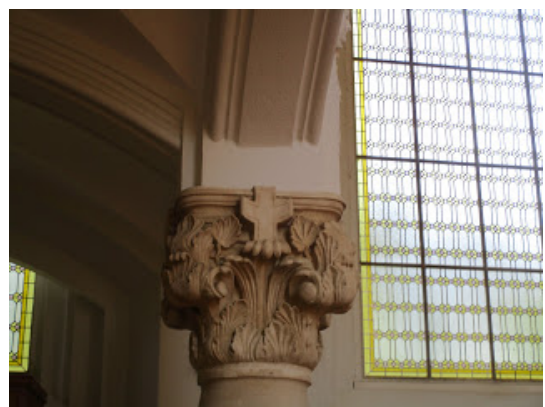


After searching for family properties. I asked Ronald to drop me at the family church St. Emmerich. This church was located in no man's land during the Cold War. Because of its location on the Iron Curtain the church and cemetery fell into disrepair. Once the Cold War ended it took a great deal of restoration work to bring the church back to what we see today. The church is now very isolated in a wooded area, miles from the populated areas.



The road from Inzenhof to the church has signs pointing out this road is part of the Iron Curtain Trail.





I hiked around the location of the old abandoned cemetery. I was only able to read one headstone. The others are too worn. I believe more headstones are likely buried. Since the border area was heavily mined during the Cold War digging around the old cemetery may not be the kind of blast we'd like?







I examined photos posted around the grounds of this church.





I was also fascinated by the signs. The painted markings on the trees seem to represent Austria and Hungary. One sign stated a camera was surveilling the area, but I didn't see one?









### Back to Güssing

After heading out of the woods back to Güssing I took a wonderful tour of Burg Güssing. When I told the person selling tickets at the Burg that my family was from Inzenhof and I was visiting from California, and my family names, she recognized a name like Bierbauer, she said Bierbaumer. I'm not sure if later members of this family changed the name? Could be a different family too?

If you buy a 7 euro ticket to the Burg Güssing you will get a discount on tickets to the other Burgs in Burgenland.



I thought touring the Burg Castle/Museum would only take a short time. I was there for hours. After walking so much the past couple weeks I was happy there is a lift up to the Burg, which helped preserve my energy for the vast collections of the museum, and large Burg complex.





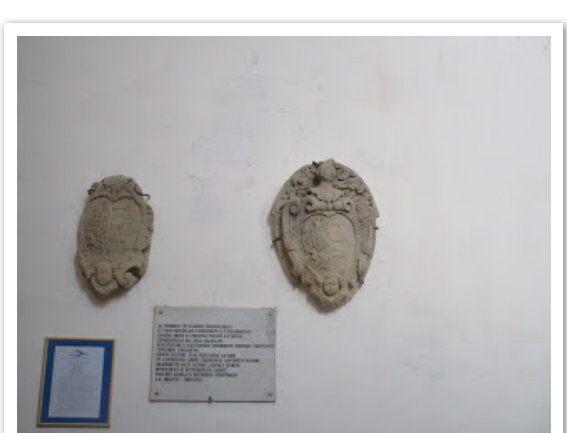
Our previous landlords the Batthyany family are still prominent in Güssing. You can see pictures of the current family members at the Burg museum.



















### Closing Service For Corpus Christi

After the Burg tour I attended the closing service for Corpus Christi at the Catholic Church. This was a beautiful ceremony. This service was primarily sung. The German dialect in this area is very interesting to listen to. Listening to this softer German accent was very soothing.







### Other Religious Groups in Güssing

Most Burgenlanders are Catholic, but Protestantism did penetrate the area early on. One of the Batthyany overlords converted and became Protestant adding acceptance of that form of Christianity. Below you can see a Protestant church building in Güssing.

This church was built in the 1980's, but the congregation was established in 1783.



There is also a Kingdom Hall located on the same street in Güssing. The Jehovah's witnesses have apparently made converts here.



### A Return to Inzenhof Day 3

I returned to Inzenhof the next day again via taxi. I asked about buses at the Rathaus. There was a bus to Inzenhof that day, but no bus returning to Güssing. The only bus headed to Inzenhof left around 1 pm. Lucky I could take a taxi and start my journey earlier because a thunder storm rolled through late in the day, after I left.

What caught my eye in the center of the Village of Inzenhof was the Gasthaus Kurta, since my great-grandmother was Maria Kurta. I'm actually related to the Kurta family at least twice. If I could trace the family back farther it may be more?



The Gasthaus Kurta is a place where local villagers can socialize.



The sky was mostly clear when I arrived in Inzenhof, but there were clouds off in the distance. I enjoyed the beautiful morning weather walking through the entire village. Looking at the surviving houses and farm structures some appeared to be newer and some could be quite old based on the state of deterioration. It is difficult to date buildings by eye because the same building techniques were used until fairly recently. Most structures were made of brick with a coating over it, which looks like plaster. The earliest roofs were thatched, later replaced by red tile. The newer buildings appear to be made of concrete blocks.

Soviet occupation of Burgenland after WWII led to stagnation of the economy. Poverty likely preserved some of the pre- WWII structures, and led to continued use of old building techniques, and preservation of old ways of life. A definite change to more modern styles can be seen immediately after the Soviet occupation ends.

I was surprised to find a newer war memorial in Inzenhof. Not the one I had a picture of?



The house behind house number 55 is very interesting. It appears to be fairly old and has a rusted manual water pump. Next to the old pump is modern water spigot. Many people continue to use the old manual pumps to water their gardens, but this particular pump is likely older than some of the others. I'm wondering if the current house number 55 is a replacement for the older house behind it?





House number 55 and its older neighbor are built in the traditional Hungarian style common to what used to be Western Hungary. The houses were long, not compact like the Northern Austrian Alpine style houses. Recently Swiss chalet architecture seems to be becoming popular in the area. Also western style homes with attached garages can be seen here.



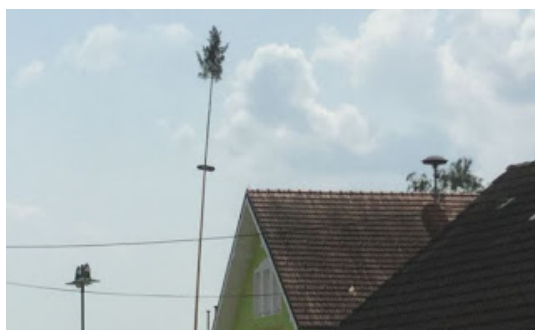
I spotted a couple of what I thought were old outhouses.



I thought a bread truck was going through to village the day I was there. No it's actually a meat truck, for those who may not go into Güssing very often to buy groceries.



Inzenhof residents still erect the traditional Maypole. I'm glad I arrived the end of May and the first couple days of June so I could see the Maypole.



Burgenland has fully integrated into Austria culturally. They may retain some traditional customs, but the culture is now predominately western and Austrian. American music can be heard playing all around the area, even though few Americans visit here. The family ties of the area to America are strong, maybe that's the reason why American popular culture is found here? The Austrian bicycle culture has found a home here too. Sadly cigarette smoking is common in Austria where cigarette machines can still be found.

### **Back to Güssing**

I was pleased to find a phone booth in the town of Güssing. I think phone booths are a good thing. Not having them forces people to spend money on cellular phones, like it or not. I've



forgotten my phone, and can't always find a place to charge the phone. Phone booths are handy if you are caught without a phone in a emergency.



There is a great deal of signage around Burgenland so getting around isn't that difficult.





Sign of pride for a local woman made good at the Winter Olympic games



"They will not replace us," isn't a chant ever heard in Burgenland or Inzenhof. The man showing us around the village was from Germany. Some distant cousins still live in Inzenhof, but many village residents fled poverty in the late 19th and early 20th centuries relocating to America, Canada and wherever they could find work and were allowed to settle. My own ancestors were brought to that area to replace the population decimated by the Ottoman Turks invasions. The local aristocracy, the Batthyany relocated peasants from other areas to inhabit this land and pay rent to them as tenants.

The residents of Inzenhof weren't always struggling to the point of leaving the area, and not everyone was driven to flee the area during economic downturns. Many Inzenhof residents did migrate to America. In 1910 ninety-eight of the 673 residents of Inzenhof were residing in Copley, Pennsylvania. This depletion of the population continued through population losses due to war, and the decline of farming as viable occupation. Residents also relocated to Vienna and Graz.

The current population of Inzenhof is now around 338 people. The smaller population reflects the early out migrations, and the fact small farms are no longer as sustainable in Austria as in the past. Smaller family size is also a factor, my Kappel great-grandparents had 11 children, which is practically unheard of today. Many new surnames can now be found as people from other areas of Austria, and the European Union, have made their homes in Inzenhof. The new residents have likely been drawn to the area because of its quiet charm, and lower cost of housing.

**Time to say goodbye for now**

I was in Burgenland from Wednesday to Saturday. I left for Graz Saturday afternoon where I continued sightseeing until my flight back on Monday.

I took taxi Roni to the train station in Fehring which is about 24 miles away from Güssing. From Fehring one train takes you to Graz, unlike the 3 trains to Alsorok from Vienna. It costs more for a taxi to Fehring, but the trip by train is faster, only requiring one train. I would probably fly into Graz when returning to the area, and take the train from there.

My fondest memories of Burgenland. Austria:

- The cute villages with their mostly one story Hungarian style houses with the church steeple dominating the view
- The church bells echoing through the villages and hills
- The beautiful woods
- The firewood stacked everywhere
- The rolling hills
- The flowers everywhere. Both garden flowers and wildflowers. I love flowers and people who love flowers
- The lace curtains popular in the area
- The charming old Burg and other historic old structures
- The cafes in the town of Güssing and the great gelato
- The sound of the farm animals, and thunder, echoing through the isolated valley of Inzenhof
- The beautifully maintained Village cemeteries
- The swallows. I've been to San Juan Capistrano where the celebrated swallows are said to return every year. I've never seen one swallow in Capistrano. I saw hundreds here
- I saw one stork which was quite beautiful! That is one large bird. I bet they can deliver 10 lb babies. I also saw stork nests



Seeing my uncommon family names such as Kurta, Hamerl, Muik, on signs around the area was a big highlight. I'm happy to see these families still flourishing in the area providing gardening supplies, photography, and a gasthaus to the local area; these families have been able to make a living and remain in the area.



I'll will always have fond memories of my visit to Burgenland. I really hated to leave, but I do hope to return.

*If you'd like to see a slideshow of my Trip to Inzenhof at youtube I've provided it below (under that one is a slideshow of my nearly 3 week trip through southern Germany and Austria*

ending in Graz):



ScreenCapture 6 11 2018 7 26 44 PM



Germany and Austria 2018



Posted by [Annette](#) at [4:23 PM](#) 2 comments: 

# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)[My Pedigree Charts](#)[Research Goals](#)

Wednesday, December 26, 2018

## Comparing 2nd Cousin DNA Matches at AncestryDNA



My Father Robert Kapple with two of his sisters

I just got a new 2nd cousin match at AncestryDNA. Now that I have a few results to compare it's interesting to see the variation in the number of cm's shared. My new 2nd cousin is actually a predicted 3rd cousin at Ancestry. However he is a predicted 2nd cousin of my 1st cousin Darryl, which is correct. My first cousin Judy, like myself, is a predicted 3rd cousin of his, which isn't correct. This has to do with the number of cm's shared which is how Ancestry decided what the predicted relationship should be. Other 2nd cousins of mine are also predicted 3rd cousins at Ancestry. When looking at 3rd cousin matches it's important to consider that they may be closer cousins.

Below you can see that several of my 2nd cousins share much less DNA with me as compared to my 1st cousin Darryl, hence the different cousin prediction. The largest difference is 132 cms. The differences have to do with differences in the amount of DNA we get from shared ancestors. I believe if I compare with the same cousins at GEDmatch amounts of shared DNA would increase. Ancestry cm numbers are often lower than the other companies because of the way they process the kits.



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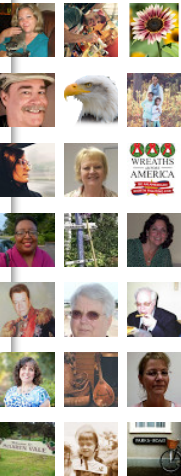
Kapple Family 2nd cousins

2 <sup>nd</sup> Cousin Matches	Annette	Darryl	Judy
Michael K.	148 cms	280 cms	163 cms
Joseph S.	129 cms	243 cms	
Hank S.	246 cms	297 cms	
Delain F.	259 cms	165 cms	
Scott D.	162 cms	218 cms	

A record number of kits were sold as gifts for the holidays. We may see several more 2nd cousin matches in the New Year. I have about 7 2nd cousin matches so far on both sides of my family. Since my Kappel/Kapple great-grandparents had 11 children there are definitely more 2nd cousins out there. These cousins can be useful if they upload elsewhere, at a site where you can collect shared segments and construct a segment map. A map with 2nd cousin segments helps to confirm more distant cousin matches; matches that share small segments. Hoping to improve my segment map in the New Year!

Posted by [Annette](#) at [10:14 PM](#) 2 comments:

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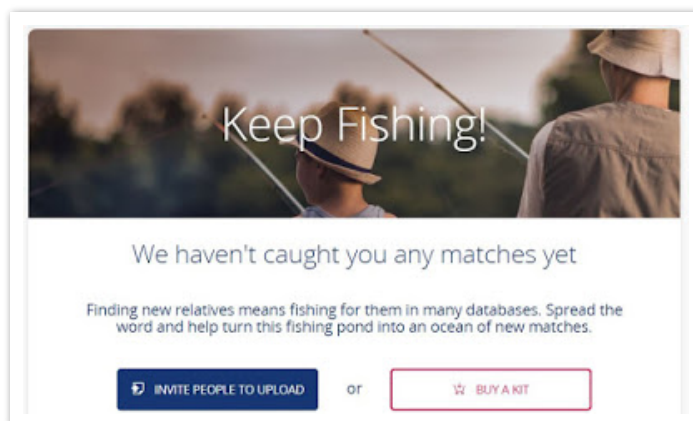
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  - February (1)
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Tuesday, November 27, 2018

Making an Ancestral Scrapbook Style Photo Book/ Living DNA



I finally have the Living DNA family networks. I've been waiting to see possible DNA matches for months. This feature was first offered to a few testers who were beta testing it. Disappointingly I have no matches yet. Living DNA is based in the Britain. Most of their testers live in the UK. I'm American with a mixed heritage and would not have any close matches in the UK. I'll keep fishing and checking as they've stated. I haven't gotten anywhere with my other kits lately either. Few matches are choosing to upload to GEDmatch, and few matches have good family trees. I'm relying more on documents now. Hoping Christmas gift kits produce some better results!



## Scrapbook Style Photo Book

Photo books are a good way to share your family history. It's especially good when you don't have enough information for a full size family history book. With the holidays coming a photo book is a great gift option.

You can make a book with as few as 20 pages, and up to a little over 100 pages, and sometimes more. The sizes of the books range from 8x8 inches (which is too small for multiple pictures on a page) 12x12, 8x11 is the best seller size, or the size closest to the old style scrap books 11x14. Most companies offer a landscaped print book. Some are now offering portrait style for books like the 8x11 size. Most offer a variety of cover options also, such as leather. You can have the books printed as a standard book. This type of book can cause pictures printed near the middle seam between the pages to be difficult to see. A lay-flat book solves this problem because it doesn't have a middle seam; the books pages open flat. This is the best option when printing a book, but it's more expensive.

There are often sales on photo books. Watch out for sales in the 50% to 70% range with coupons, because these books can quickly add up in price as you add pages and other custom features.

I've been using [Snapfish](#), and their affiliated [Walgreens](#) Drugstore sites to create my books. If you order your book from a drug store site, or a big box store, you can often pick up your finished book from the store in as little as one hour. The quickly printed books are not as high quality as the books you order by mail, but it's a convenient quick way to create a book.

I use [Snapfish](#) and [Walgreens](#) mainly based on price and the ease of using their book creation features. I found that the other sites took more time to learn to use.

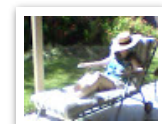
[Snapfish](#) doesn't have the nice designs [Mixbook](#) and [Shutterfly](#) have for a family history book.

[Shutterfly](#) and [Mixbook](#) have some nice book designs relating to family history. You can start out with a basic book and build the pages yourself.

Here are some nice vintage backgrounds for an ancestral family history photo book.

- [2016](#) (24)
- [2015](#) (30)
- [2014](#) (53)
- [2013](#) (59)
- [2012](#) (76)
- [2011](#) (94)

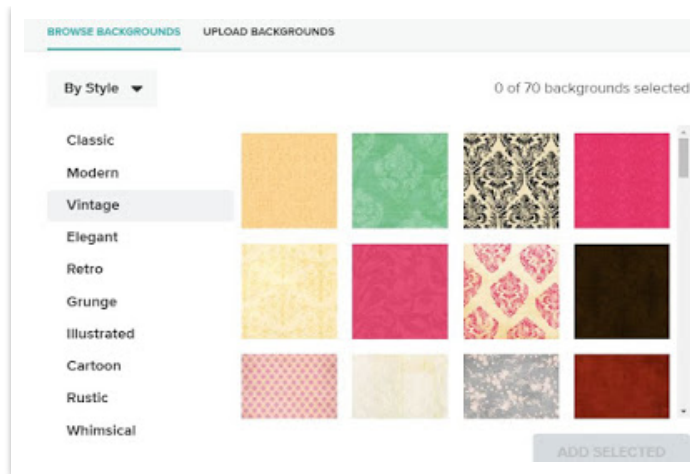
## About Me



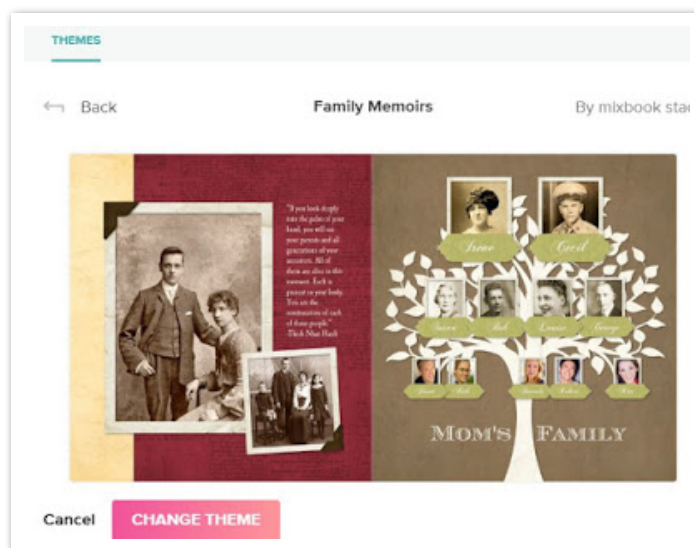
**Annette**

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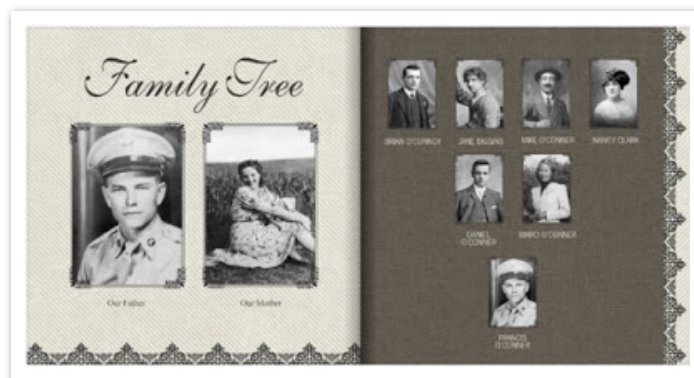
## Feedjit



If you go with the blank book you can add custom themed pages. Here is a family history theme page you can add.



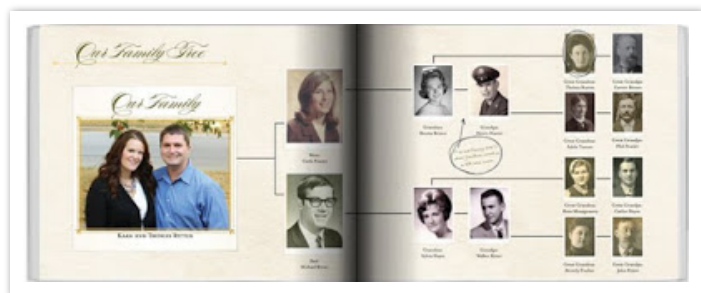
You can choose a theme book instead of a basic book which would contain custom themed pages. Here are some pages from the Remembrance and Modern Memories books at [Mixbook](#).





To make the book look more like a scrapbook you can add stickers/embellishments as seen in the photo at the top of the page.

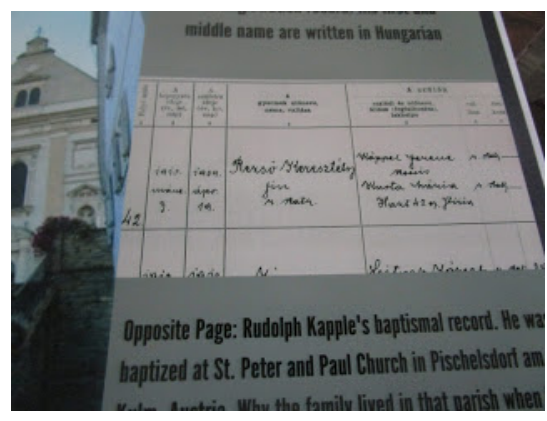
Shutterfly has a family history themed book.



You can add text boxes to your photo books too.

Most of the photo book sites have books with family theme pages. Search sites for family, memories, remembrance etc. for themed pages, and books that would be suitable for family history.

I wondered if my document images would be clear enough to read in these photo books. In the example below you can see that the print is legible. Sometimes I had to use the program Paint to enlarge an image so it would look clearer. Increasing the pixels will make the image acceptable.



Caution: Be sure to choose the correct size book before creating your book. The standard size at [Mixbook](#), for instance, is 8x8, which is too small for most projects.

Also I would not have these sites automatically place pictures for a family history photo book. If you are making a travel book with hundreds of pictures it is economical and fast to have them place the photos for you. When it comes to a family history books automatic placement wouldn't work because the chronological order wouldn't be correct, and the family groups wouldn't either.

There are many ways to customize these books. You can move things around, and add as many photos as you'd like to a page by dragging them over. You can overlay pictures to use a photo as a background. It takes a little time to learn about all the different themes, embellishments, frames, and fonts etc., but it's worth it when you see the finished product.

Here is a video of my lay-flat [Snapfish](#) family history book. I didn't use embellishments, but as I said before you can do so in order to create a book that looks like a scrapbook. I included my trip pictures along with documents I've collected and a picture of my grandfather Rudolph Kapple.

### Rudolph Kapple's Heritage and My Trip to Austria...



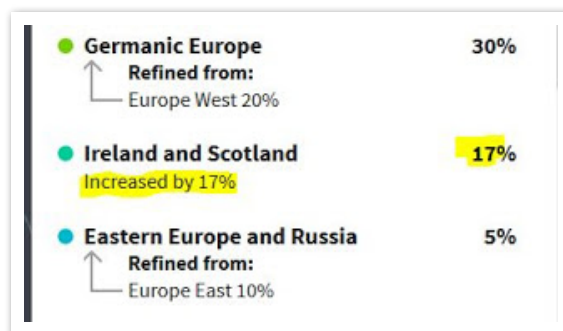


Posted by **Annette** at **1:50 PM** 1 comment: 

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

## New AncestryDNA Ethnicity Results/ Iberian Problem Bites Again

The new AncestryDNA results are a mixed bag. My cousin Darryl Kapple's results have improved. I stated in previous post that his AncestryDNA estimate completely missed the DNA he would have received from his Irish great-grandmother Helen Mullen, who was born in Ireland. He had no Irish admixture, whereas I did plus I was placed in the Connacht specific group. He now has 17% Irish/Scots Irish.



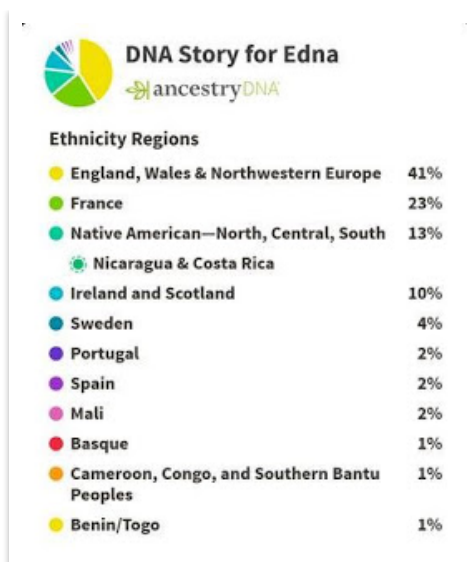
### Playing Musical Iberian

#### Where do we sit now?

The new estimate for my mother and I is less accurate, as far as the Iberian prediction. My mother's mother Graciela Del Castillo was Nicaraguan, and was likely more than half Spanish when you figure in 13% Native American and 4% African that my mother has, and what her remaining admixture percentage would be. She was also part German, but that percentage is unknown to me since I have not identified a German ancestor so far? According what I'm seeing looking at her DNA matches I would guess she would have been at least 60% Spanish. The surnames associated with her family are Lugo, Alvarado, Lacayo, and Granizo. Previously my mother was 11% Iberian at Ancestry. She also had Italian admixture which is completely gone. Now she is 2% Spanish, and 2% Portuguese, 1% Basque. She's lost 6% of her Iberian.

My mother would have received 50% of her DNA from her mother so does it add up? Adding up what I see to be the Nicaraguan admixture, which is Native American, Iberian, and African, I get 22%. So where is the rest? Previously she was given 12% Italian, and 11% Iberian, which seemed to related to her mother's side. The Italian is gone completely. I do see 5%, which would be Iberian, remaining.

Where is the missing 28%? I'm guessing it's primarily now gone over to French? She had no French before. The remainder may be in Northwest Europe representing a German great-grandparent? My mother's father was mainly Scots-Irish and German. The 10% Ireland and Scotland would seem a little bit low too.



It seems like the more mixed a person is ethnically the harder it is to get an accurate estimate.

Posted by [Annette](#) at [5:00 PM](#) 3 comments: 

Wednesday, August 8, 2018

## Filling In the Blanks Using Church And Civil Registration Records for Burgenland

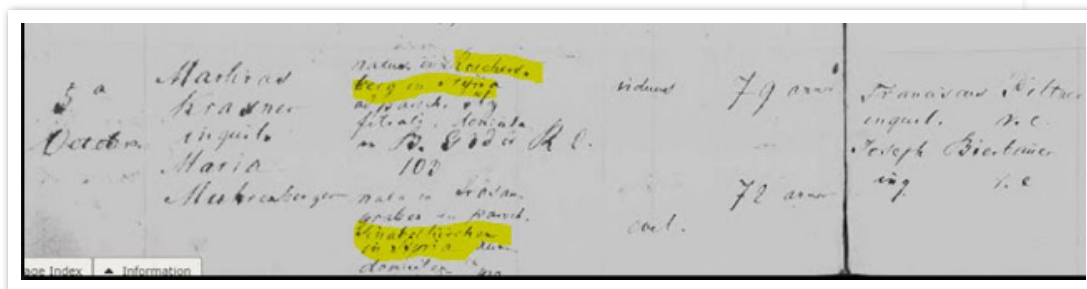


Since I have never spoken to anyone in my family who has been to Burgenland or heard any stories about it I have to rely on other's outside my family to supply the stories about life in that area. One way for me to get to know my ancestors, and the place they lived, is by examining church and civil registration records.

I've filled in some blanks regarding life in Burgenland (when territory of Hungary) by looking at both the civil registration and church records.

The story of pre-Austrian Burgenland, or more specifically the southern part that I've been researching, is that of an area in fluctuation. We see a growing population during the early church record keeping period with individuals and families migrating in from Styria, and other parts of Austria, and Hungary into this area. My Bierbauer ancestors were migrants to Borosgodor from Styria. Migration to this area was encouraged due to depopulation after the Ottoman invasions.

Here is an example of some of the migration that occurred in the mid 19th century as found in a church marriage record:

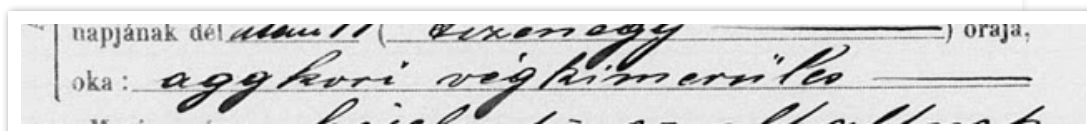


This older couple stated they were born in Styria, Austria, but now lived in Borosgodor, Hungary. My great-great grandfather Joseph Bierbauer witnessed this marriage, and he was also born in the parish of Sinabelkirchen, Styria, Austria. He also migrated to Borosgodor, Hungary (now Inzenhof, Burgenland, Austria).

It was quite unusual for a couple in their 70's to marry let alone live to be that old in 19th century Burgenland.

## Living Conditions

Living conditions in southern Burgenland were very difficult in the 19th and early 20th century as attested to by the high childhood death rate. Living into your 50's was considered old age as seen in the death records. The illustration below is from my great-great grandmother Maria Bierbauer's death record long form:



Aggkori vegkimerülés would translate to senile exhaustion. She was 55 years old. She died of old age due to exhaustion.

Something that caught my eye when reviewing church death records for Felsoronok Parish was the high death rate from smallpox in 1874. I looked into that and discovered there was a smallpox pandemic that lasted from 1870 to 1874. The infection was spread due to the Franco Prussian War. Fifty-five children died in the Felsoronok parish from late February until the last death in November. Examining the records you can see the infection spreading from Felsoronok, where the first cases were, to Borosgodor where the last case occurred. Janos Jost was the last to die. He died 11 November 1874 at house #54 in Borosgodor. 500,000 people died during this pandemic worldwide.

98	1874	Stephanus Michaelis 12 <sup>a</sup> Augusti	Berni Götter 50	1. Ann. in variol.
98	12 <sup>a</sup>	Petrus Joseph Bauer Augusti	Berni Götter 55	9 Ann. in variol. in 3. Ann.
99	15 <sup>a</sup>	Maria Johanna Schnitzler Augusti	Berni Götter 9	10 in variol. in 3. Ann.
100	27 <sup>a</sup>	Theresia Maria Schnitzler Augusti	Berni Götter 29	1 Ann. in variol.

Mostly the youngest children died during the smallpox epidemic in the parish of Felsoronok. Many under 5 years old. It could be the older children and adults were vaccinated, or already had the disease and were immune? Since not everyone who contracted smallpox died there were certainly many more cases than the 55 deaths.

Early vaccines for smallpox used in the 18th century were dangerous. Thomas Jefferson was vaccinated, as were his children, and a few of his slaves. At that time vaccination required quarantine, and a recovery time from a mild form of pox which developed from the vaccine. Better vaccines were developed by the 1870's. Areas with high vaccination rates escaped the brunt of the 1870's epidemic.

The Spanish Flu also made its way to Southern Burgenland. The Spanish Flu Pandemic during WWI resulted in the deaths of 35 people in rural Güssing, in two months alone. The months of October and November of 1918 were the deadliest in rural Güssing. Even more probably died as the result of pneumonia which developed as a result of the flu. At first it was called Spanish disease, then later called Spanish flu in the civil registration register. I had one ancestor still living in Borogodor at the time who apparently escaped this deadly flu.

147	148	Sebastian Schnitzler 147	148	Sebastian Schnitzler 148	149	Sebastian Schnitzler 149
147	148	Sebastian Schnitzler 147	148	Sebastian Schnitzler 148	149	Sebastian Schnitzler 149
147	148	Sebastian Schnitzler 147	148	Sebastian Schnitzler 148	149	Sebastian Schnitzler 149
147	148	Sebastian Schnitzler 147	148	Sebastian Schnitzler 148	149	Sebastian Schnitzler 149

Infectious disease was the most common cause of death in the 19th and early 20th century Burgenland.

Common causes of death of death from infection (latin names):

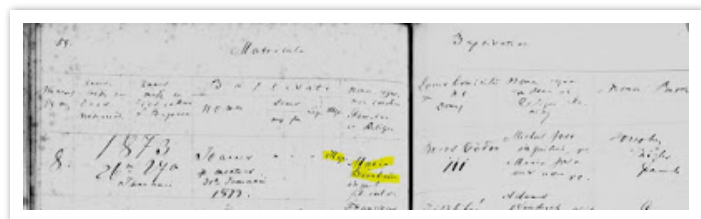
Dysenteria- diarrhea

Febris- fever

Diphtheritis- Diphtheria  
 Phthisis- Tuberculosis  
 Variolis- Smallpox  
 Typhus  
 Morbilli- Measles

It's interesting to note that baptism was either the day of birth, or the day after. The childhood mortality rate was very high. If a child were not baptized before death its soul might end up in limbo, not in heaven, but not in hell either; therefore, it was crucial to baptize an infant as soon as possible.

Illegitimacy in what is now Burgenland was also very common. My Great-Great Grandmother had an illegitimate child I just learned about recently. My great-great grandmother Maria Bierbauer gave birth to an illegitimate son Joannes in 1873, he died shortly after he was born. This was 3 years before her marriage to my great-great grandfather.



Despite the flu epidemic hitting the Southern Burgenland area in the late teens of the 20th century life expectancy was going up. Perhaps out migration eased the population burden of earlier times?

## Social Structure

The allasa, or social standing in the Burgenland community, had a lot to do with land ownership in rural Burgenland. Small landholding peasants were at the bottom of the social hierarchy.

In the pre-1895 Felsoronok church records my ancestors are always referred to as inquilinus. Nearly everyone in that rural parish was categorized as inquilinus. These people were peasants with small landholdings. Before the 1848 land reforms in Hungary they were tenants of the Batthyany family. After the land reform of 1848 they received title to their land.

One of my ancestors is referred to as an agricola, latin for farmer. The way I understand it is he would have owned more land than an inquilinus. His status in the community would have been higher according to this classification.

After 1895 Allasa (meaning standing or occupation) was recorded in the Hungarian language, instead of Latin as in the church records. At this point the rural population was either categorized as Foldmives or Foldbirtokos. Foldmives were peasant class small landholders. My ancestor Peter Kurta was classed this way on his death certificate, as were his parents. My Koppel and Bierbauer ancestors generally referred to themselves as Foldbirtokos, meaning landowners. The fact they were classified this way doesn't always mean they owned land, it's also a social status above the lowest peasant class. It is a sort of a middle class status during the Hungarian period.

## More Occupations

Many homes and other buildings in Burgenland were constructed of bricks. We can see brick makers and bricklayers in the civil registration records. Flor Kalman was a brickmaker, and Richard Gerger was a bricklayer.



1909	1909	Jana	Bartholmian	birth 52	
jan	jan	frei	figlar-mester	frei	
11	13	a bath	Grastyan Maria	birth 28	
			Kunthyjara	frei	
4					

1909	1909	Fanas	Erzsa Richard	birth 26	
jan	jan	frei	Kunnes	frei	
11	10	a bath	Olson Emma	birth 23	
			Kunthyjara	frei	
46					

Another important member of Burgenland society would be the midwife. Bela Lakay is listed before her husband proving the status of a midwife was deserving of that kind of recognition. My great-grandmother was said to have preferred to give birth in the old country rather than where she was living in Pennsylvania during the early 20th century. The midwives there must have been very good!

1909	1909	Lenke	Lakay Bela	birth 23	
feb	feb	frei	Kalos	frei	
20	14	a bath	Lies Jolan	birth 24	
			Kunthyjara	frei	

## Out Migration

Out Migration from Burgenland began in the late 19th century. The small landholdings of Burgenland peasants could not sustain the growing population. The population of Inzenhof, for instance, was in the 600's, and fell to the 300's. Many Burgenland migrants made their way to the United States during the late 19th and early 20th century.

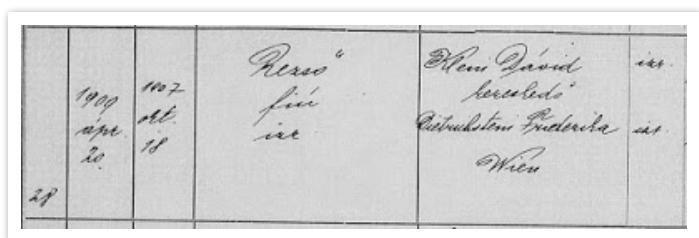
Another option for Burgenland migrants was relocating to urban Austria where jobs were more plentiful. Josefa Baldauf was a female cook in Graz in 1908.

1908	1908	Josefa	Baldauf Josefa	birth 20	
mar	jan	frei	nakaismo		
29	10	rom bath	Graz		
9					

Maria Szalay and Maria Lagler were servants working in Vienna in 1907.

1907	1907	Maria	Szalay Maria	birth 29	
aug	sept	frei	adelt		
7	2	rom bath	rom bath		
			Wien		
43					
1907	1907	Maria Schauer	Lagler Maria	birth 28	
aug	sept	frei	adelt		
7	15	rom bath	Wien		

A man of the Jewish faith, David Klem, from Gussing was living in Vienna. Working as a winemaker?



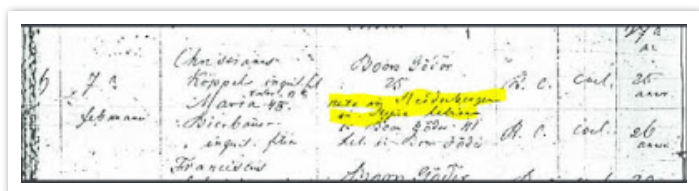
### Some information about Church and Civil registration records

Church baptismal records provide the village or town of birth. Child's name. Date of birth and baptism. Address of parents. Whether they were male or female (which is helpful in case the name doesn't make the sex clear). Whether legitimate or not. Parents names, and godparents names. The name of the priest performing the baptism. A cross by a child's name, and corresponding date, indicates that child died, soon after, to a few years after birth.

Church Marriage records provide the dates of marriages. Name of the couple. Occupation of the husband. Occupation of the wife's father. Addresses of couple before their marriage (house numbers not on the earliest records). Their religion. Whether married before or widowed. Ages of bride and groom. Names of witnesses. Parents names. Name of the Clergy officiating the marriage.

Sometimes the church marriage records give a place of birth if not at the same as the place where they lived when married.

Here is an example of a marriage record which gives the place of birth of my great-great grandmother Maria Bierbauer. She was born in Sytria, Austria, and not where she lived when she married.



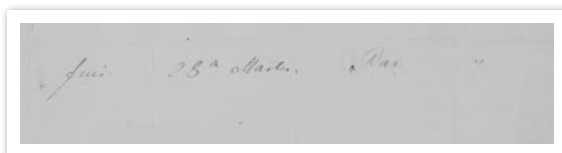
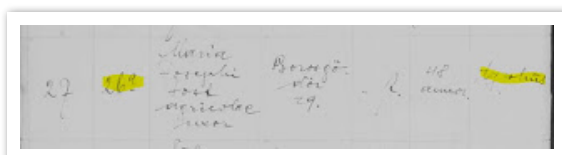
Church death records contain the least information generally. If an adult male dies, his name, and date of death are provided, but not the name of his spouse. Village or Town he lived in. House number on later registers. Age at death. Cause of death. Occupation. Date of burial. Name of clergy officiating at burial.

If a female or child died then the name of their husband or parent is also given, and that persons occupation is also given.

How soon after death someone was buried can tell you about burial customs in the area for that particular religious group. Burial a day or two after death was generally the rule for Catholics. During winter it may have been longer period between death and burial.

The cause of an ancestors death can also be informative. When I saw that one of my ancestors died of Typhus I assumed it was because of the poverty of the family that she had been infected with it. This disease is acquired through body lice. When I learned that Thomas Jefferson's daughters also came down with Typhus while in Paris I changed my opinion regarding inferring poverty and filthy living conditions as the sole cause of infection.

Here we have an example of a church death record. My ancestor Maria Wolf died the 26th of March 1871 of Typhus. Since she is female her husband's name is given. His name is Joseph Jost. Joseph is listed as an agricola. She is buried two days after her death on the 27th.



Catholic Church records online for today's Burgenland only cover the time period ending in 1895, when civil registration records then record these events. These records are also online at FamilySearch.org.

The 1895 Civil Registration records end in 1920 when Burgenland is ceded to Austria after WWI.

The civil registration records often contain more information than the church records.

From 1895 to 1907 a long form was used to record registrants information. These records are very detailed. When multiple registrants were listed on a single page the information was not always as detailed.

Civil registration birth records in the long format contained the name of the child towards the bottom of the form, which can be confusing.

The top of the long civil registration gives the name or names of the persons reporting the birth, and their addresses and occupations.

Here we see Janos Kurta and his wife Anna Jost are reporting the birth of their granddaughter Maria Koppel. Janos is said to be a foldbirtokos or landowner. They live at 17 Borosgodor.



The center of the form contains the names and information of the parents.

Below you see the father's information

és bejelentette a következő születést:

családi és utóneve: *Koppel Ferenc*

vallása: *romai katolikus*

állása (foglalkozása): *földbirtokos*

lakóhelye: *Borosgödör 21 házmám*

születéshelye: *Borosgödör*

életkora: *24* ( *húszöt* ) éves.

családi és utóneve: *Koppel Ferencné*

név: *Kurta Mária*

vallása: *romai katolikus*

állása (foglalkozása): *földbirtokos*

vallása-religion

állása (foglalkozása)- standing (job)

lakóhelye- residence

születéshelye-place of birth

Életkora- age

My great-grandfather's standing is given as Foldbirtokos or landowner.

Next on the form is the mother's information.

Below is the information for my great-grandmother Maria Kurta

lakóhelye: *Borosgödör 21 házmám*

születéshelye: *Borosgödör 17 házmám*

életkora: *21* ( *húszöt* ) éves.

helye: *Borosgödör 21 házmám*

ideje: *1900* (ezer *húszöt* )

évi: *september* hó *25* *húszöt*

napjának del(után) *7* *het* órája.

neme: *any*; vallása: *romai katolikus*

The same information as provided for her husband regarding her vital statistics.

Below is the information for her daughter Maria's birth.

helye: *Borosgödör 21 házmám*

ideje: *1900* (ezer *húszöt* )

évi: *september* hó *25* *húszöt*

napjának del(után) *7* *het* órája.

neme: *any*; vallása: *romai katolikus*

utóneve: *Maria*

Megjegyzés: *"Bejelentő az anyai nagy."*

anya

Helye-place

ideje-time

napjának del(után): time of day afternoon (Maria was born at 7 in the afternoon)

megjegyzes- comment. Bejelentő az anyai nagy- (Maria's birth) Announced by the maternal grandmother.

The birth information on the long form is quite informative. Knowing what time of day my great-aunt Maria was born is interesting because like her I was also born around 7 in the afternoon. The most helpful information is the fact her birth was announced by her grandmother named at the top of the form, Anna Jost. As I've stated in previous blog posts

her mother Maria's church birth entry is wrong. It stated her mother was Anna Scharl. This birth record is more evidence that record is wrong, and her name was Anna Jost.

At the bottom of the form the person reporting the birth was supposed to testify to reading and understanding what was written above, and attesting it was a true statement of the facts.

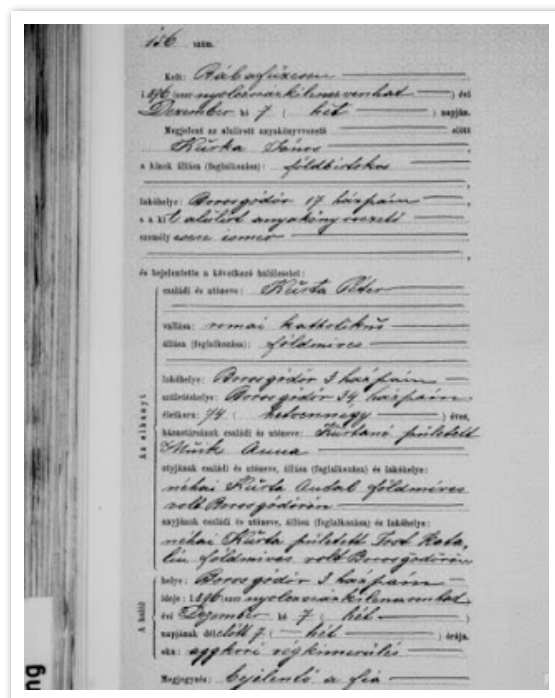
Since Anna Jost, Maria's grandmother, apparently was illiterate and was not a fluent Hungarian speaker she stated she was more comfortable with German (nemetul). The document was reviewed for her in German, and she signed it with 3 X's.



None of my ancestors married in Burgenland in 1895, or after, so I have not gleaned anything about my own family from these records. The records appear to contain basically the same information as the church marriage records. Some do provide additional information about the language spoken by the marriage party.

The Civil Registration death long form is laid out much the same as the birth long. The death record has the additional information regarding the time of death, and name of parents if known.

My 3 times great-grandfather Peter Kurta died in 1896 in Borosgodor.



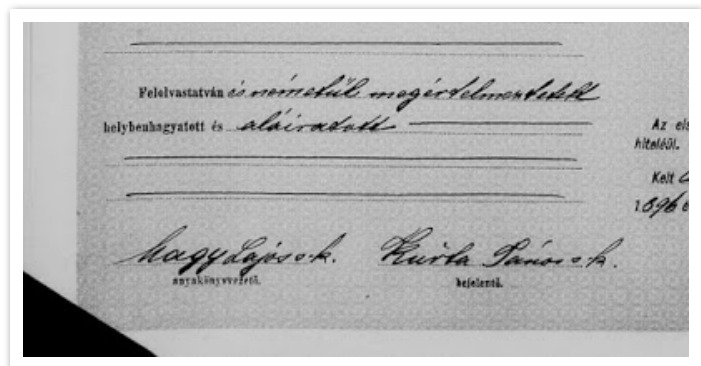
Peter Kurta died at house number 3, in Borosgodor. A house in which he lived with his wife all of his adult life. His wife's name is correctly stated as Anna Muik.



His father's name is correctly stated as Antal Kurta. Mother's name is given as Katalin Jost. I have Catherine Jost, but it's close enough. Both of Peter's parents are said to also be from Borosgodor, which is correct. The status of, or job, of his father is Foldmives or peasant farmer. And apparently his Jost grandfather was also classified as Foldmives.

Peter's son Janos Kurta reported his death, as seen by his name at the top and in the comment below, which states his son announced his death. He was living at house number 17 in Borosgodor when he reported his father's death. This was his home until his own death in 1919.

Unlike Anna Jost, Janos Kurta could sign his name. I don't know if this is actually his signature or a copy made by the clerk?



This is just a small sample of the interesting information that can be found by examining the church and civil registration records.

Below are the names of those who died in Felsoronok parish during the smallpox epidemic, and those who died in the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1918.

## 1874 Smallpox Epidemic Parish of Felsoronok

	<b>Place</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Date</b>
1	Felso	Julianna Gyori	7	16 Feb
2	Felso	Agnes	1	1 Mar
3	Jaka	Franciscus Gyori	3	8 Mar
4	Raba	Joannes Koller	3	12 Mar
5	Felso	Maria Schlegel	1	17 Mar
6	Felso	Maria Szolderis	6	18 Mar
7	Raba	Jospehus Schmidt	4	20 Mar
8	Felso	Aloysias Krobath	4	22 Mar
9	Felso	Franciscus Konrad	1	22 Mar
10	Jaka	Franciscus Krobath	5	26 Mar
11	Raba	Joannes Jud	5	28 Mar
12	Felso	Joannes Schmidt	4	31 Mar
13	Jaka	Julianna Krobath	3	1 Apr
14	Sand	Joannes Jost	8	2 Apr
15	Felso	Jospehus Kreuzer	2	2 Apr
16	Jaka	Joannes Krobath	1	2 Apr
17	Felso	Elisabeth Gollinger	7	2 Apr
18	Felso	Michael Jost	2	7 Apr

Page 1

## 1874 Smallpox Epidemic Parish of Felsoronok

19	Felso	Maria Windisch	2	8 Apr
20	Felso	Joannes Schuster	1	10 Apr
21	Raba	Jospehus Muik	1	10 Apr
22	Felso	Francisca Schramel	2	10 Apr
23	Felso	Aloysias Kreuzer	1	13 Apr
24	Raba	Joannes Schratzter	1	13 Apr
25	Felso	Julianna Stern	1	15 Apr
26	Boros	Maria Koppel	25	19 Apr
27	Raba	Jospeha Szulderis	5	19 Apr
28	Felso	Julianna Medovis	7 months	21 Apr
29	Jaka	Maria Gollinger	7	24 Apr
30	Jaka	Julianna Urban	1	25 Apr
31	Felso	Rosalia Szimitz	8	29 Apr
32	Jaka	Agnes Knueg	6	30 Apr
33	Raba	Joannes Szald	1	3 May
34	Felso	Joannes Oszemul	1	3 May
35	Boros	Julianna Koppel	5	5 May
36	Raba	Maria Podetz	5	5 May

Page 2

## 1874 Smallpox Epidemic Parish of Felsoronok

39	Felso	Julianna Windisch	1	14 May
40	Sand	Stephanus Weidinger	3	21 May
41	Sand	Rosalia Kakas	8 months	23 May
42	Boros	Maria Fresch	7	26 May
43	Boros	Thersia Wieder	8	28 May
44	Jaka	Joannes Gyori	1	7 Jun
45	Jaka	Joannes Huber	1	10 Jun
46	Sand	Joannes Gluckshofer	10	26 Jun
47	Boros	Joannes Spandl	6	1 Jul
48	Boros	Julianna Jost	4	20 Jul
49	Boros	Franciscus Jost	4 months	7 Aug
50	Boros	Thersia Weidinger	1	10 Aug
51	Boros	Stephen Szulderis	1	12 Aug
52	Boros	Maria Sommer	10 Months	15 Aug
53	Boros	Franciscus F?	1 year	27 Aug
54	Boros	Maria Jost	5	31 Aug
55	Boros 54	Joannes Jost	7 months	11 Nov

Spanish Flu 1918				
	Place	Name	Age	Date
1	Also	Ferenez Fischer	3	12 Oct
2	Ujt	Fan Gully	42	17 Oct
3	Ujt	Ferenez Tapler	60	21 Oct
4	Ujt	Janos Gully	16	22 Oct
5	Ujt	Julia Flamisch	3	22 Oct
6	Boros	Alejos Frieoh	54	23 Oct
7	Ujt	Marie Wagner	4	24 Oct
8	Ujt	Fola Schiener	21	25 Oct
9	Ujt	Gizella Grotler	3	25 Oct
10	Boros	Marie Jozst	14	26 Oct
11	Vasszent	Ferenezhe Sandraste?	52	27 Oct
12	Ujt	Terez Gully	17	27 Oct
13	Ujt	Gustav Pekar	17	27 Oct
14	Ujt	Fan Buchfeller	5	28 Oct
15	Ujt	Anna Bodisch	5	30 Oct
16	Ujt	Josefine Fiedler	51	30 Oct
17	Ujt	Gunter Mayer	2	30 Oct
18	Ujt	Ida Rubner	2	31 Oct
19	Boros	Terezia Gollinger	12	31 Oct
20	Vasszent	Marie Spandl	14	31 Oct
21	Ujt	Agnes Szommer	14	1 Nov
22	Boros	Jozsef Auner?	13	3 Nov
23	Boros	Miksa Novak	3	4 Nov
24	Kisk	Ferenez Lanninger	19	4 Nov
25	Boros	Peterne Atinger	33	5 Nov
26	Ujt	Marie Schiener	1	8 Nov
27	Boros	Gottfride Heldinger	24	11 Nov
28	Sand	Marie Jozst	26	11 Nov
29	Ujt	Gyorgyne Horvath	43	11 Nov
30	Ujt	Janos Horvath	18	14 Nov
31	Boros	Janos Czaadhek	5	17 Nov
32	Ujt	Josefine Mayer	53	20 Nov
33	Beka	Terez Kroboth	3	22 Nov
34	Felsom	Oolm? Femler?	20	23 Nov
35	Felsom	Agnes Szemler	17	27 Nov
36	Boros	Josef Szommer	26	7 Dec

Page 1

Posted by **Annette** at **5:28 PM** **2 comments:** 

Tuesday, July 31, 2018

## Breakthrough In Birthplace of Grandfather



I have spent years searching for the birth record of my grandfather Rudolph Kapple. I began searching in 1998. I had assumed he was born in or near the village of Inzenhof where his parents were born and raised. Actually before I even knew of Inzenhof my grandmother Dorothy Mason, first wife of Rudolph, had written to his surviving family in Chicago to ask where he was born. Most likely she wrote to one or more of his siblings, at least a couple were still alive around 20 years ago. They told her Rudolph was born in Graz, Austria. After discovering the family came from Inzenhof I discounted this as wrong believing they just named the nearest large metropolitan area as his place of birth, and it was not his actual place of birth. I assumed that also because the Irish generally provided the name of the nearest market town as their place of origin instead of the smaller townland they actually lived in.

After obtaining a copy of Rudolph's mother Maria's naturalization document, and passenger list, he was listed with a different birthplace I never had heard of. A place called Hort was named as Rudolph's birthplace.

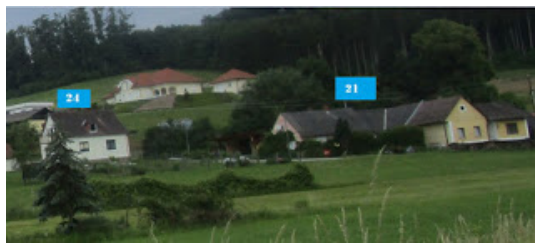
at	NEW YORK, N. Y.	on	APR. 29, 1910	for permanent residence therein, and now
resided at	Died on Jan. 6, 1937 in Chicago, Ill.			I have 11 children, and the names, date
and place of birth, and place of residence of each of said children are as follows:	Stephen born 9-12-99, Allentown, Pa. (resides in Chicago, Ill.)			
Mary born 9-21-01, Inzenhof, Germany	Bertha born 9-22-12, Chicago, Ill.			
Frank born 2-23-03, Butler, Pa.	Bertman born 12-24-10, Chicago, Ill.			
John born 10-3-04, Inzenhof, Germany	William born 9-20-15, Cudahy, Wis. (All reside in Chicago, Ill. except Frank who lives in Los Angeles, Cal.)			
Stella born 11-16-06, Ambridge, Pa.	and John who lives in Kansas City, Mo. (My husband was naturalized on 12-1-22, Chicago, Ill.)			
Joseph born 4-30-08, Ambridge, Pa.	Inzenhof, Germany			
Rudolph born 4-13-09, Inzenhof, Germany	Inzenhof, Germany			
Rose born 7-3-11, Chicago, Ill.	Inzenhof, Germany			
My last name is Kapple	Antwerp, Belgium			
My lawful entry for permanent residence in the United States	was at New York, N. Y.	under the name of	Keppel, Maria	
Am. 29. 1910	as the natural	SS. Vaderland		

I used this information looking for places named Hort. I found one place by that name in Hungary. I was unable to find his birth record in the LDS Family History Library civil registration film for Hort, Heves, Hungary. I then believed the spelling could be wrong and it might instead be Hart? There are several places in Austria called Hart. With few microfilms for Austria, and none for a birth in 1909, I had to give up on the search for my grandfather in places called Hart.

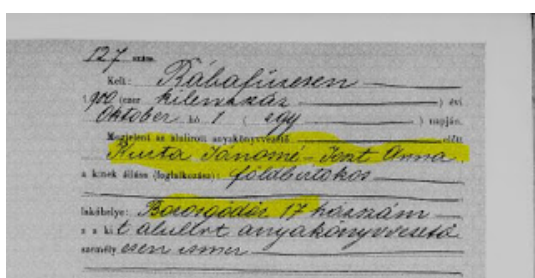
I also believed he could have been born in Inzenhof, and the passenger list was wrong. Since the passenger list surname misspelling had to be used on documents for naturalization I







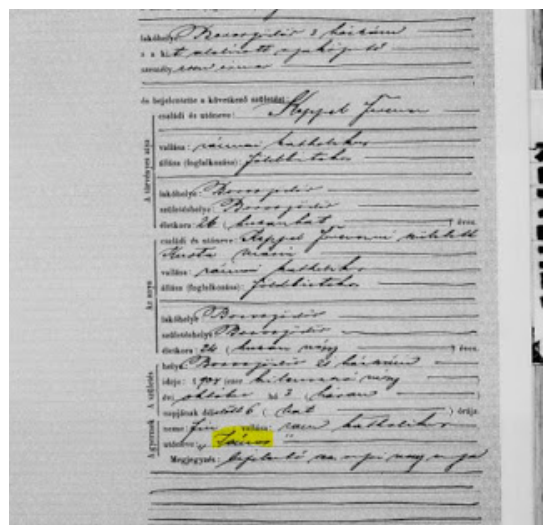
Maria's grandparents Johann Kurta and Anna Joszt were witnesses on the birth record. This is another confirmation that Maria Kurta's Catholic Church birth entry is in error. Her mother is not an Anna Scharl, but instead Anna Jost. I figured that because her siblings birth records stated their mother was Anna Jost, plus there is no record of an Anna Scharl marrying a Johann Kurta. There is a record for the marriage of Johann Kurta and Anna Jost before Maria was born, and the address was the same as Maria's birth record.



Johann and Anna were still living at house 17 in 1900. House 17 is behind the village school in the picture below.



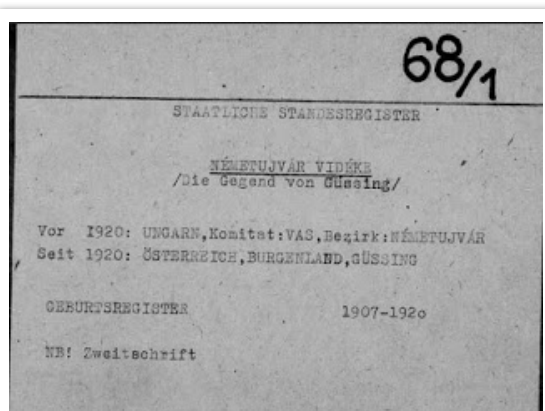
I then searched for John's birth record and also found it. He was born in 1904, and his birth was recorded in the Rábafüzes civil registration district. His grandparents also witnessed his birth record like that of Maria. An old address of number 3, which was where his mother Maria was born, was given?



I then decided to go through the books searching for my grandfather's birth record, this time looking for names spelled in Hungarian. Looking through the Rábafüzes book for births in 1909 I noticed that it appeared Borosgödör/Inzenhof births were not longer registered in that district. As I was researching the Németsújvár digitized microfilms at FamilySearch I noticed there were zero births listed for Borosgödör (Hungarian name for the Village of Inzenhof). I then had to figure out where these births were now being registered?

Looking more closely I then discovered there were actually two books on the digitized film I was searching in. There are two books for district of Németsújvár. One was for the larger towns, and the other for villages or rural areas. As you see the book below is for Németsújvár Videke. Videke means rural. Rudolph's family lived in Inzenhof, which is a rural area not far from Güssing/Németsújvár. There is a set of films for Németsújvár which have these books on separate microfilms. I accidentally came upon the one with the combined books, which led to my confusion.

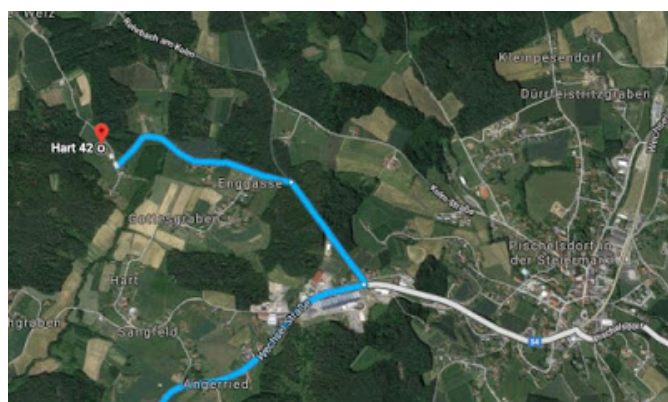
The best way to search the FamilySearch microfilms is by using the links provided by the [Burgenland Bunch website](#). Then you won't run into the confusion caused by two books on one film.



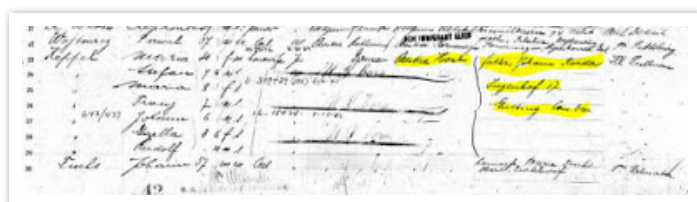
Now that I finally had the correct book I searched page by page from Rudolph's birth in April 1909 until I finally found his birth record. His birth was recorded nearly a year later. I was surprised to find Hart named as his birthplace. It stated he was born in Hart, Styria, Austria. His name is also written in Hungarian, which didn't look like Rudolph Christian to me. I did figure it out more quickly knowing to look for different looking names, but the correct parents



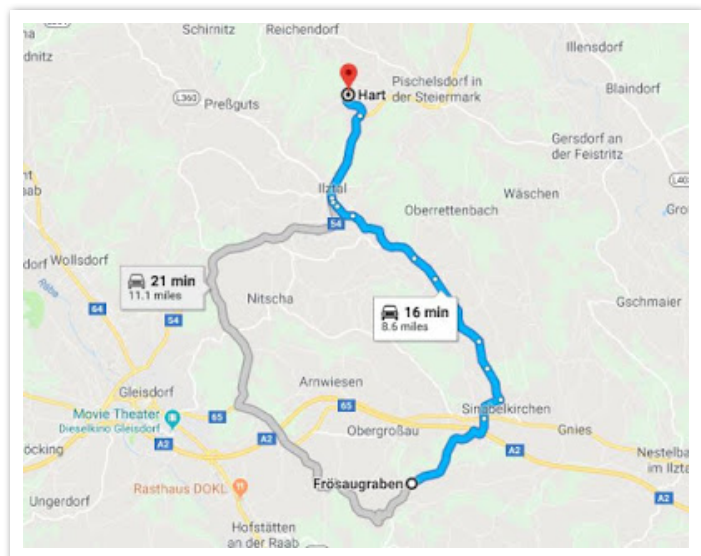




Looking at the passenger list my grandfather Rudolph appears on, in 1910, Maria states her last address was Hart, Austria. I missed that before.



I have not idea why Maria was living at number 42 in Hart? Her husband Frank's grandfather, Joseph Bierbauer, was from Frösaugraben, Styria, Austria, which isn't far away from Hart, just around 9 miles away. Maria may have joined cousins of Frank living in that area?

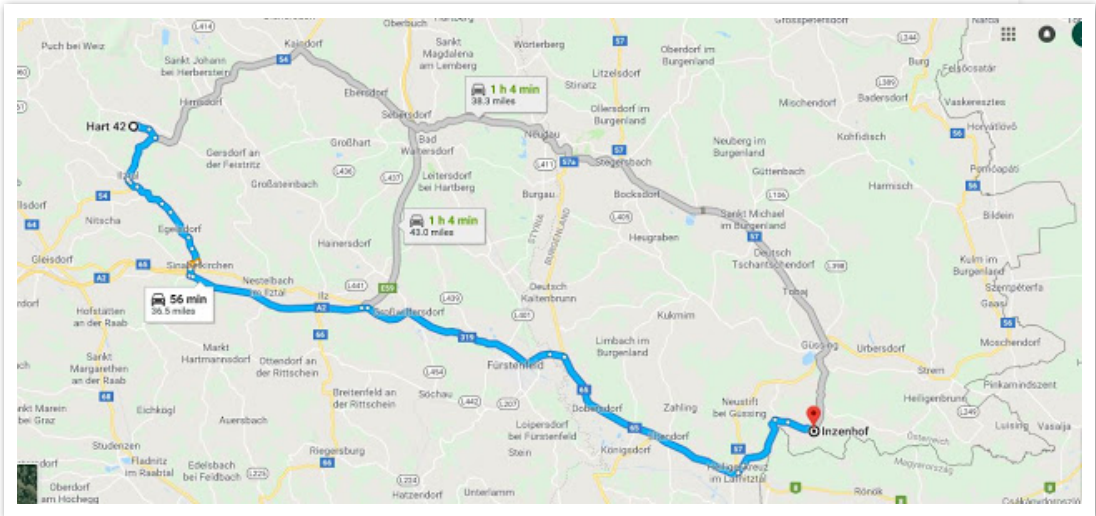


I found another entry in a civil registry book for Pischelsdorf so apparently there was some connection between these two areas?



1918. január 18.	1909. márcs. 12.	Hárosy jin r. márcs.	Oswald Victoria r. márcs. valásztó. Fischelsdorf			
6.						

Inzenhof is about 35 miles away from Hart.



I've got more research to do to discover why Maria was living in Hart? I may also find birth information for her children in America in these civil registration records. The births of many Inzenhof emigrants are recorded in these books. It's a page by page search through many years so it will take me a long time to complete. My prime goal at this time is to find photos of Frank Kappel and his wife Maria Kurta since I have never seen any photos of them.

Folyó száma	A bejegyzés ideje (év, hó, nap)	A születés ideje (év, hó, nap)	A gyermek utóneme, neve, valósága	A szülők			A születés helye, ha a születés nem az anya lakásán történt
				családi és utóneme, állása (foglalkozása), lakhelye	val-lása	élet-kora	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
115	1918. dec. 6	1918. apr. 15	Gizella Hárosy r. márcs.	Klára és Ferenc emigránsok Győr és Borsod Abaúj-Zemplén megyei határánál	r. márcs.	32	
					r. márcs.	26	

The Travelers

Maria, and apparently not her husband Frank, made 3 trips back to the old country. Often she was accompanied by at least some of her children. Frank moved the family around Pennsylvania according to where he could find work. He finally migrated to Chicago where the family joined him after returning from Austria for the last time in 1910. Below is a video showing the movements of Maria to and from Austro/Hungary, and the family's movements within America.

## My Movie the many travels of maria2



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Posted by [Annette](#) at [1:47 PM](#)    1 comment:    

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)
[My Pedigree Charts](#)
[Research Goals](#)

Thursday, May 9, 2019

## Using Townland Maps to Plan My Trip To Galway



I'm leaving in a week for a trip to the ancestral homeland of Ireland. I will begin my trip in Dublin, then head south and west, doing some sightseeing, and then ending my trip by staying a few days in Tuam, Ireland (before heading back to Dublin for one more day before my flight). From Tuam it's an easy drive to Milltown, where my family attended church, and Pollaturick the ancestral townland (I'm not sure whether I will make it to Kilvine and Irishtown in Mayo on this trip?).

Since I know the townland and the section number of the property on the Griffith's Valuation Map I can visit my family's land and home in Pollaturick. I thank my cousin Darryl Kapple a million times for finding a listing for our Mullen family's home in this townland.

Here is the listing he found:



Search This Blog

My Blog List

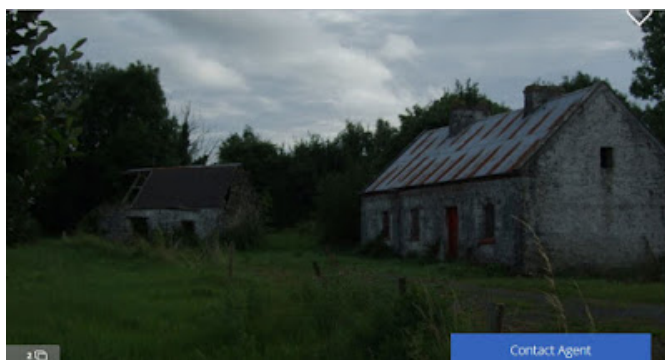


**Arlene Eakle's Tennessee Blog**  
Tennessee  
Ancestors—Mostly  
Military Evidence  
Found in Early  
Land Claims  
6 days ago



**Geneabloggers**  
Happy October  
2020  
Blogiversaries  
2 weeks ago

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#### Property Description

This cottage in need of complete refurbishment is situated on circa 2.5 acres in a quiet setting surrounded by nature & natural beauty of the countryside. Located approximately 1 mile from the village of Miltown and within easy commuting distance of Galway city and 15 minutes from Tuam. This property could be transformed into a lovely family home. Viewing comes highly recommended and is by appointment only.

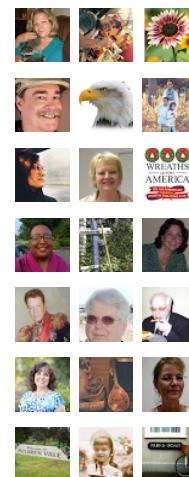
Patrick Mullen Sr. can be found on Griffith's Valuation in the mid- 19th Century renting the land which is section 1 on the map for the valuation. He was renting all of the land outlined in the bottom left corner. After land reform the family was allowed to purchase the land, which they did. My great-great grandfather Patrick Mullen Jr. divided this land with his brother Michael. You can see a line dividing this land in two. Later they divided this land between their heirs.



A problem I had to resolve for this trip was I didn't have an address for this land and house. I used Google maps to find Pollaturick. A map for the area did come up but the area is marked as Bohalas, not Pollaturick. A red tack for Pollaturick shows up on the far left side of the townland. I will have to ask if there was a name change or this is an error on Google's part?

With the map possibly being wrong I had to figure out where the boundary lines were. I started by looking for another map with the townland borders. The [Ask About Ireland site](#), which has a Griffith's Valuation database, has the best townland maps. Flipping between those maps and the satellite map I was able to see that the outline of the townland can still be seen from above. The outline of my ancestors' property can still be seen also. The lines are still visible but are fading.

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From the air you can see the house that is now for sale (on the right below). Street view doesn't show a view from that smaller road. There are views from the main road however.



From the air you can see another ruined building (Ⓜ above far left highlighted) on the property which I might examine if it isn't too difficult to get to? From what I've heard there is a lot of barbed wire fencing in the area. There is a garden center not far from there so I may be able to buy wire cutters?

Here is a street view of the other ruined building, which was likely another house, on the property. It does look like there were two houses on the property, one belonging to Michael and the other Patrick. There was also a building called an office.



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## About Me



**Annette**

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## Feedjit



Street view does show one building, and possibly more on our Mullen land. This building below is on Mullen property. The house for sale can be seen in the distance.



According to the 1911 building and house returns Patrick Mullen owned a house with 3 windows in front, which matches the house for sale, and 5 out buildings or farmsteadings.

**FORM B. 1.—HOUSE AND BUILDING RETURNS.**

Parliamentary Division, North Galway, Poor Law Union, Galway, District Electoral Division, MI

Urban District, Galway, Town or Village, Galway, Street, Galway

Scale 1:—When a Township or Union is divided in the Parliamentary Division, or is more than one District Electoral Division or Parish, or is partly within and partly without a Parliamentary Borough, City, or Town.

Whether built or rebuilt	Name of building	Number of floors	PARTICULARS OF UNFINISHED HOUSES				No. of windows	No. of doors	No. of outbuildings or farmsteadings	Remarks
			Walls	Roof	Windows	Doors				
Built	Single dwelling	1	Yes	1	0	2	3	6	2	1 Thomas Mullen
Built	Single dwelling	1	Yes	1	0	2	3	6	2	1 Mark Bailey
Built	Single dwelling	1	Yes	1	0	2	3	6	2	1 Patrick Mullen
Built	Single dwelling	1	Yes	1	0	2	3	6	2	1 Michael Mullen
Built	Single dwelling	1	Yes	1	0	2	3	6	2	1 Michael Mullen

It's possible that these buildings from Google street view belonged to the Mullens? I will knock on the door of the house near them and ask.



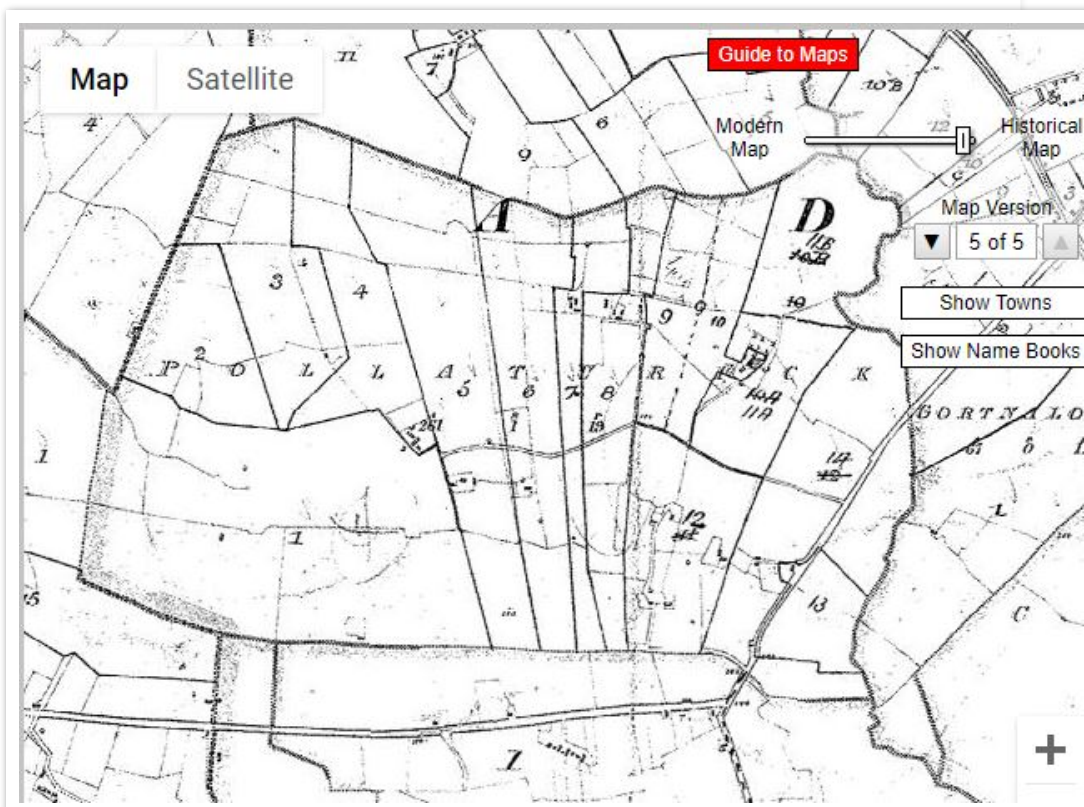
I want to take a look at the old train station and signal house in Pollaturick. Believe it or not a Pierce Brosnan was station master there back in 1911. If anyone knows if he is related to the actor please let me know? This Brosnan appears to have relocated to Pollaturick to work for the railroad.

	Christian Name.	Surname.	Sex, Age, &c.	Church, Association, or Body to which they belong.		Ages of Males.	Ages of Females.	Before using this column you are requested to read the instructions on the other side.
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
1	Terre	Broman	Ad. 4	Boman Catholic	Ad. 4	44	—	Station Master
2	Jan	Broman	Wife	Boman Catholic	Ad. 4	—	34	—
3	John	Broman	Ad. 4	Boman Catholic	Ad. 4	4	—	—



Railroad station and signal house

Oddly the railroad station house is said to be in section 15 according to the Valuation Revision Books. I can't find a map with a section 15? I did find a map with a crossed out 12 changed to 14.



Cross outs often signified changes in ownership in the cancelled books, so that may be the case on the maps also? Below you can see Patrick Mullen 1A crossed out. New sections A and B, C and D, are created to divide the land between the brothers.

(A.) COUNTY OF <u>Louth</u>				UNION OF <u>Louth</u> (12)									
Townland of <u>Pollaturick</u> O.S. <u>10</u>				Rural District of <u>Louth</u> Electoral Division of <u>Mulltown</u>									
Sectional or Other	NAME		Description of Tenement	Borough or Rural Valuation									
	Original	Current		Area		Lands		Buildings		Borough Valuation		Rural Valuation	
				A	R	A	R	A	R	A	R	A	R
1A.3	Patrick Mullen	2 1/2 C. (L.A.P.)	off. land	1 1/2	1 20	6 0 0	0 10 0					6 10 0	0 0 0
1A.4	Patrick Mullen	2 1/2 C. (L.A.P.)	off. land	1 1/2	1 20	6 0 0	0 10 0					6 10 0	0 0 0
1A.5	Patrick Mullen	2 1/2 C. (L.A.P.)	off. land	1 1/2	1 20	6 0 0	0 10 0					6 10 0	0 0 0
2A	James Mullen	2 1/2 C. (L.A.P.)	off. land	1 1/2	1 20	6 0 0	0 10 0					6 10 0	0 0 0

All of this information will make my trip to Pollaturick fruitful. I worried about getting lost but now I know the area very well and don't think I will get lost.

I might travel a little farther afield and check out some ruins close by, such as Dunmore Castle. I found a ruined monastery not far away which is in the parking lot of a Superstore. With all the empty land why build a Superstore on top of a nice ruin? As my Irish family would say Jesus, Christ, Mary, and Joseph why? Maybe this is a Protestant business? There were Irish Protestants on my mother's side of the family, my father's side is this Pollaturick Catholic Mullen/Huvane family. On the Catholic side we blame everything on Protestants lol.



I'm more than ready to be heading to Pollaturick. I'm hoping the first week doesn't fill my head to over flowing with information that I forget where everything is in the townland. I'll have to make a copy of everything so I don't forget. I'm also making some copies of family pictures to share, and hopefully stir up some local interest in helping me to rediscover my Irish ancestors history (below is a picture of Helen Mullen-Mason my great-grandmother with her son and granddaughter. She was born in Pollaturick and came to America, Chicago, in 1898. She was the daughter of Patrick Mullen Jr.. Both of her parents remained in Ireland until they died in the 1930's).



I believe the foregoing to be a true Return.

*Patrick Muller* Signature of Head of Family.

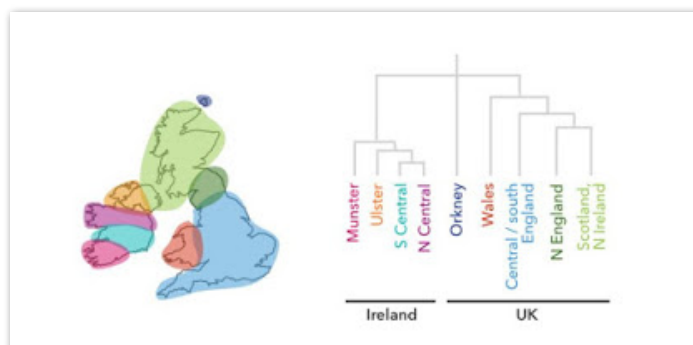
Posted by Annette at 2:30 PM

No comments:



Tuesday, April 30, 2019

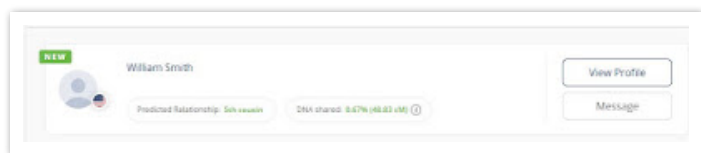
## Puzzling Over Living DNA and 23andMe Results



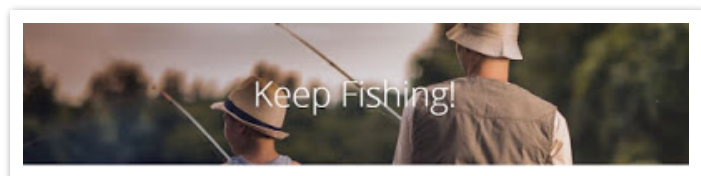
A few weeks ago I checked my Living DNA results again and noticed I finally have one DNA match. I've been checking for matches since matching became available at Living DNA and I



kept getting the message to keep fishing. I finally caught one match. Not that good at fishing here.

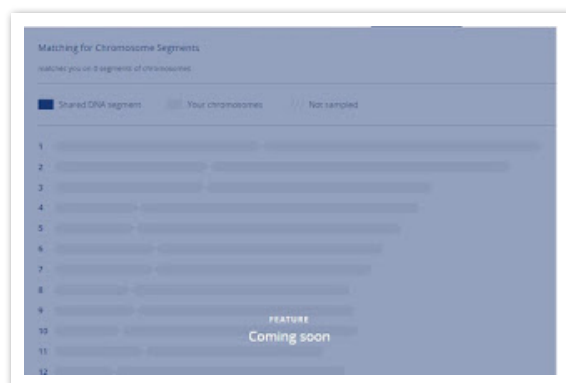


I was so excited about catching one match I decided to upload the raw DNA data of an Aunt. That was a couple weeks ago, but her Family Networks' page still says keep fishing. My Aunt and I don't match yet.



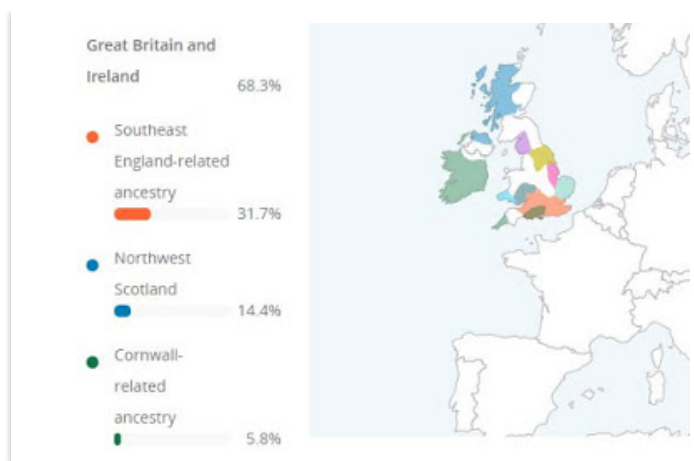
In order to get matches and participate in Family Networks you must opt in. When you do opt in there are a number of terms you must agree to. You have to keep clicking accept until you've agreed to all of their terms of use. That confused me at first because I didn't know I needed to keep clicking.

I'm now able to see what the chromosome browser will be like when Living DNA makes it available.

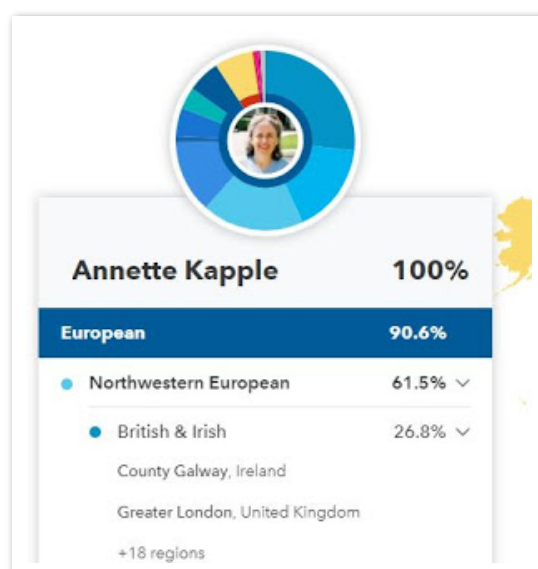


I checked my ethnicity results again at Living DNA just to see if they were any more accurate (they are supposed to roll out changes). They are still the same. They have extremely overestimated my British Isles ancestry because their database is made up of a majority of testers from the UK. You can see how comparing with a population which isn't very diverse skews the results. I couldn't be 68% British Isles because one of my grandparents was Nicaraguan and another grandparent was from Austria. That would give me around 50% non British Isles ancestry, plus I also have German and French Canadian ancestry.



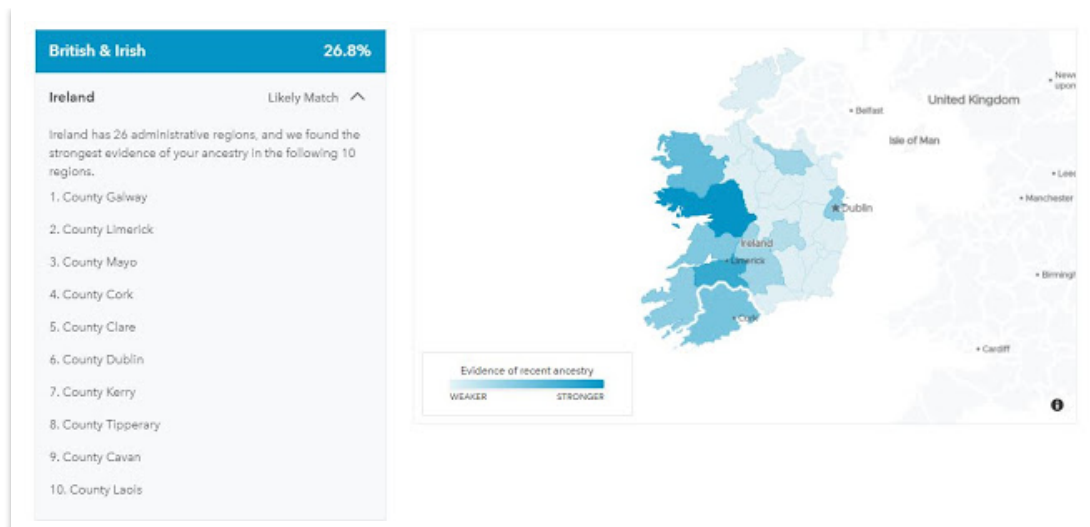


I checked my 23andMe ethnicity results to see how much British Isles they estimated? 23andMe is most accurate for me because my mother also tested and my ethnicity results have been phased, making them more accurate. They now have me at around 26% British Isles. That could be a little low but closer than Living DNA. Most likely the rest of my British Isles can be located in my 18% Broadly Northwestern European prediction. I'm 61.5% Northwest European according to 23andMe.

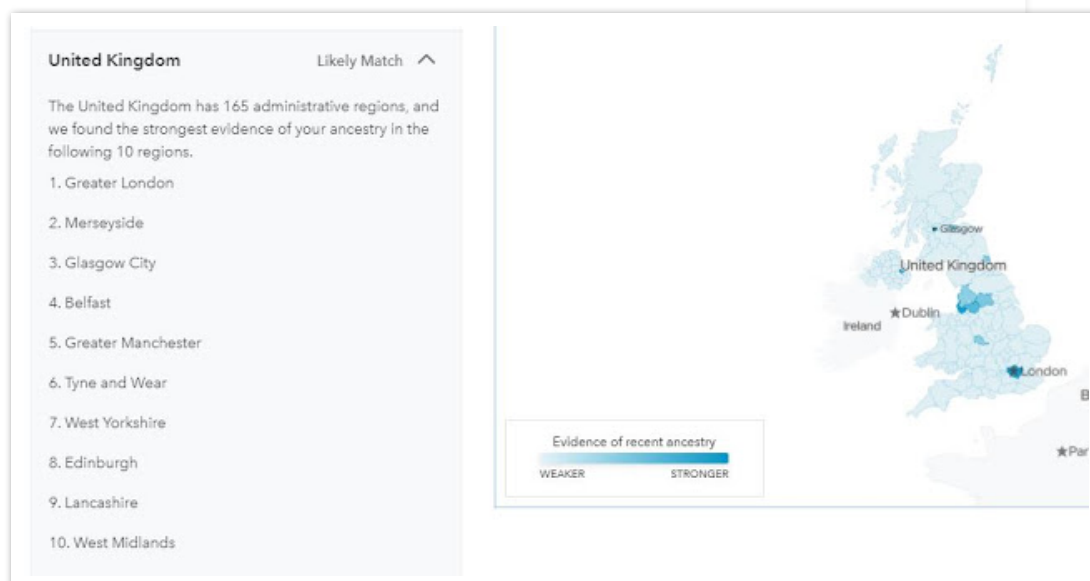


What really blew me away is now they are also predicting I have ancestors from the Greater London area of England. I know for a fact I have Irish and Scottish ancestry, but I've not been able to trace any ancestors to England (by the way one of my great-grandmothers was born in Co. Galway, Ireland so that prediction is right). When I last checked this result I only had a prediction for Ireland. Both of these predictions apparently relate to my father since my mother doesn't share them.

Here are examples of how the predictions are broken down at 23andMe. A heat map shows areas with a stronger association as dark, and weak association with my family as light.



Here are my UK predicted areas of possible ancestry.



I've been to the Merseyside area. I've been to Liverpool, and really loved that city. I also love London and Edinburgh, which are also on my list. I would rank Yorkshire as one of my favorite places to visit, and I may have some ancestry there too? It's nearly impossible to say where all my pre-Revolutionary War ancestors came from. They left no hints as to where they came from, because they left no immigration records. DNA is the only way to get some idea as to where they may have been from.

I'm headed to the ancestral homeland of Ireland in a couple weeks. Thankfully I know the exact townlands where my family lived for the past several hundred years, at least. I will spend a week in Spain after my trip to Ireland. I wish DNA could confirm approximately where in Spain my family came from? I believe most Central Americans have southern Spanish roots because Latin America was largely populated by people from that region of Spain. Hopefully we can get the Spanish interested in testing? The more diversity in the pool of testers the better. The more matches the better too.



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Posted by [Annette](#) at [1:52 PM](#)    [2 comments:](#)    

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

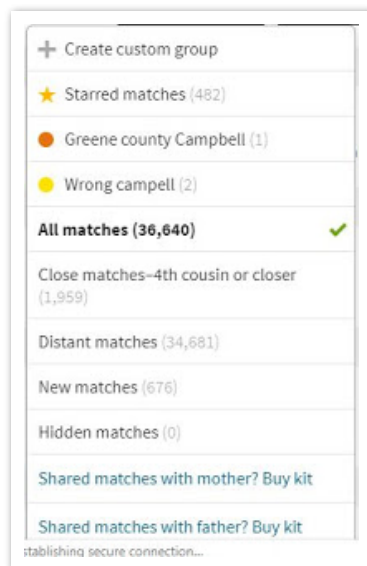
## Looking At the New DNA Tools At Ancestry.com/ including Thrulines

New DNA tools were introduced at RootsTech 2019. A few of the tools are opt in. I've opted into those tools.

Here are my impressions of the new tools:

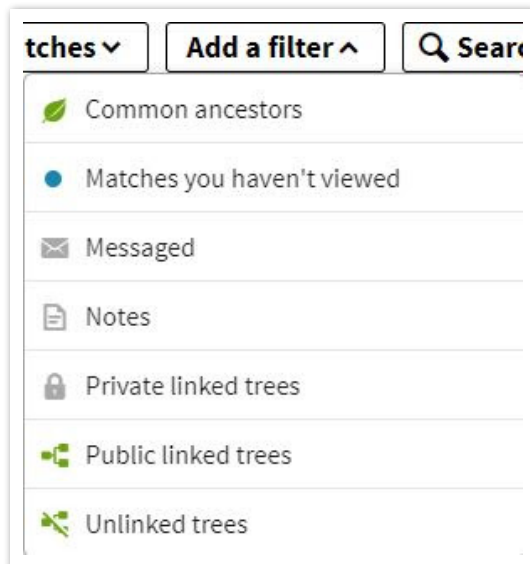
Starting with the opt in tools. One allows you to color code your DNA matches, which may work for some people but I'm finding that too time consuming, and you have to remember the color code you're using for each family.

There are also new ways to filter matches as you can see in the snip below.

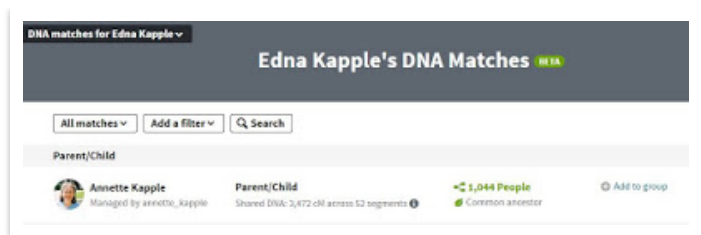


I did color code my brick wall Campbell family as you can see. You can create a custom group to filter by, or use filters that are already created.

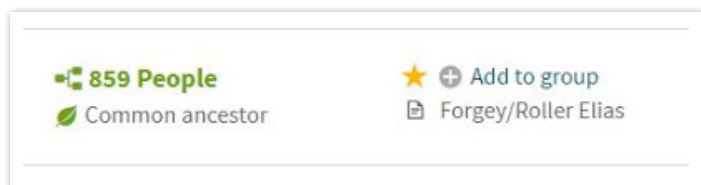
Here are some additional filters:



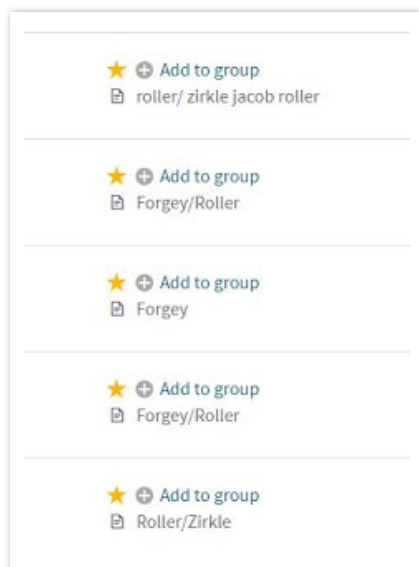
I love the layout of the new match page. You can quickly see how many cm's a match shares, and there is a quick link to a page with your match's information. Another nice feature of the new match page is you can scroll down and see all of your matches without having to click to another page. This is a faster way to review more matches. Before I only checked the first couple of pages looking for new quality matches. Now I quickly see the number of cm's we share and scroll down to the point where I'm less confident about the matches. Knowing how many people are on a tree is great too. If there are only 2 people on a tree why bother.



One of my absolute favorite features is the ability to see notes for a match without clicking. This is a quick way to review matches. I have a standard way I note matches when I can identify the common ancestor. I note the father's surname/mother's maiden name and the child's name if I know it.



The ability to see notes is especially helpful when reviewing the all important shared matches. Below we see a network of shared ancestors. Not seeing any other lines this match could be related through I'm confident enough to include the match in the Forgey/Roller line (the preceding generation is Roller/Zirkle). Sometimes you find you share more than one line, and can't say which line your shared DNA comes from?

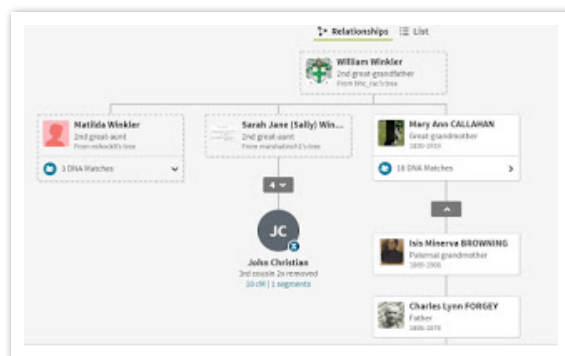


Another new favorite tool of mine at Ancestry is Thrulines which is designed to replace Ancestry's DNA Circles and Shared Ancestor Hints. I barely looked at the DNA Circles. I found them too time consuming to sort through. I enjoy working with the DNA results; but, I actually make more progress doing research in old documents so I need to be able to quickly review the DNA results. The new tools do make the process of reviewing matches faster.

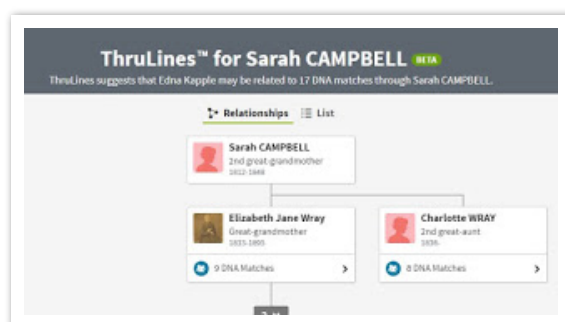
If you watched Diahann Southard's excellent RootsTech presentation on "[Connecting Your DNA Matches](#)" you learned how to use the new Thrulines at Ancestry to find networks of matches. She recommended using your best matches to create DNA networks. As she said the Circles and Thrulines are an automated way to do that, but you can create your own networks by looking at matches you share with your best identified cousin matches.



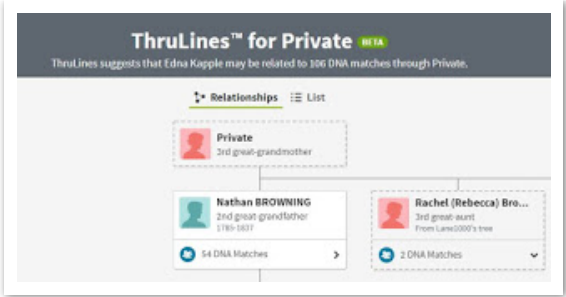
ThruLines uses trees and DNA to show possible lines of descent from a match. It's just a suggested line of descent that you need to verify. Suggested ancestors not on your tree are called potential ancestors. Potential ancestors are like the old Shared Ancestor Hints. Here we see a potential line of descent which is incorrect. It suggests I'm a descendant of Richard Browning's first wife's, Mary's, father William Winkler (Richard Browning had a thing for Marys because his 2nd wife was also Mary maiden name Callahan). William had a daughter named Mary Winkler who was the first wife of Richard, when she died he married a neighbor named Mary Ann Callahan. This wrong connection created a number of wrong potential ancestors. The positive aspect of this is ThruLines allowed me to find this wrong connection quickly so I could move on.



My primary goal right now is to find the parents of Sarah Campbell who was born about 1810, likely in Tennessee. There are 8 ThruLines matches for Sarah Campbell's daughter Charlotte. Elizabeth is my ancestor and there are 9 matches who descend from her. I need to look at these matches and see if any shared matches might relate to the Campbell line of this family? Since my matches through Elizabeth share more common ancestors, and more recent ones, than through Charlotte, my matches through Charlotte are likely to be more helpful in creating a network of shared matches that might lead me to a solution to my Campbell brick wall.



Some potential ancestors are called private because they are linked to private trees. It's important to click on those because there are generally named ancestors linked to them. My mother has 106 private matches through private trees.



The only thing I would change about the new features would be to make it easier to get from the filtered matches back to all matches.

AncestryDNA would be the best DNA test without a doubt if they allowed opt in sharing of DNA segment data. They are adding some great features, but without segment data they fall short of being the absolute best. They are a good and important place to test, but don't have all of the best tools.

Posted by [Annette](#) at [10:28 AM](#)    No comments:   

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

# Some Problems with Online Research

I've been doing new research, and redoing old research, for my book about John Owens, Indian Trader, and his family using online sources. When I began my research in the late 1990's I used mostly microfilm from the Family History Library ordered from my local Family History Center. Using the indexes on those films or ordering separate microfilmed indexes, and sometimes just paging through every page of a microfilm, I was able to find the information I needed for my research. Now my research is nearly exclusively online.

Here are some of the problems I've encountered in my research online recently:

Ancestry.com's index of a family death certificate contained errors. When I first saw this information at Ancestry I wasn't sure this was the correct person? When I saw the death certificate it was the correct person. Josephine Owens' father's name was indexed as Janus Owens, which actually should be James Owens. Her husband's name was Benjamin Durham, but it's indexed at Ancestry.com as Guy Darrow. You can't count on indexed names being correct.



The person who filled out the form had handwriting that was difficult to read. I however wouldn't index the name of her husband as Guy. It does look like Benj.. When I saw his name recorded as Guy Darrow I thought she remarried, but actually she was still a widow when she died and she didn't remarry.

3 SEX <i>Female</i>	4 COLOR OR RACE <i>White</i>	5 SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, or DIVORCED (write the word) <i>Widow</i>
5a If married, widowed or divorced (or) WIFE of <i>Benj Darrow</i>		
6 DATE OF BIRTH <i>July 26</i> , 18 <i>63</i> (Month) (Day) (Year)		
7 AGE <i>62</i> Years <i>6</i> Months <i>13</i> Days	If LESS than 1 day.....hrs. OR.....min.	
8 OCCUPATION OF DECEASED (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work..... <i>Retired</i> (b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer)..... (c) Name of employer.....		
9 BIRTHPLACE (city or town)..... <i>Maylow</i> (State or Country)..... <i>Illinois</i>		
10 NAME OF FATHER..... <i>James Owens</i>		
11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (city or town)..... <i>Keokuk, Iowa</i>		

The actual death certificate contains multiple mistakes. The informant was the son of Josephine. He seems to have given his grandfather James Owens name as his mother's father, instead of her father William F. Owens' name. The document also states Josephine died on 9 February 1926, but the doctor last saw her alive on 10 February 1926. Anything written down can be in error. That's why using multiple sources is important.

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
16 DATE OF DEATH <i>Feb 9</i> , 19 <i>26</i> (Month) (Day) (Year)	
17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from <i>Jan 1925</i> to <i>Feb 10</i> , 19 <i>26</i> that I last saw her alive on <i>Feb 10</i> , 19 <i>26</i> and that death occurred, on the date stated above, at <i>9:15</i> a.m. The CAUSE OF DEATH* was as follows:	

Another problem searching for census records involved the 1850 Census. Again the handwriting of the enumerator is difficult to read. I looked for Robert S. Owens online using the search fields for census records at all of the sites with census images. I could not find him, but I knew he was living in Bracken County, Kentucky in 1850. I finally stumbled upon the reason I could not find him. His name was indexed as Owand, instead of Owens. If you already know this man's name is Owens you can decipher this difficult to read handwriting. I'll be adding the name Owand as a variant spelling of Owens to my list.

Robert S Owand		Tools
United States Census, 1850		
Name:	Robert S Owand	
Event Type:	Census	
Event Year:	1850	
Event Place:	Bracken county, part of, Bracken, Kentucky, United States	
Gender:	Male	

1850	Robert S. Owand	36	M	"	Black Smith	1300
	Elizabeth	37	F			
	Lucy	8	F			
	John	6	M			

Another problem I've encountered is poor quality unreadable online images. This is the 1860 Census for Effingham County, Illinois for my Owens family. As you can see it's tough to read the names, but if you already know the names you can make them out. I could not find this record by searching for it. I had to use my microfilm copy to find it.

94	Samuel J.	13			Chas		95
95	Norma J.	4			"	1	96
96	William J.	34	M	Farmer	Geo	Chas	97
97	James "	25	F	Domestic		Chas	98
98	James St	13	M			Chas	99
99	John St	10	M			Chas	100
100	Mary St	8	F			Chas	101
101	Shadell	6	F			Chas	102
102	Arthur "	4	M			Chas	103
103	Chas J	2	F			Chas	104
104	William J.	27	M	Farmer	Geo	Chas	105
105	John "	27	F	Domestic		Chas	106

This is the same 1850 Census image for the Owens family. I made this copy from a microfilm. The names are more legible.

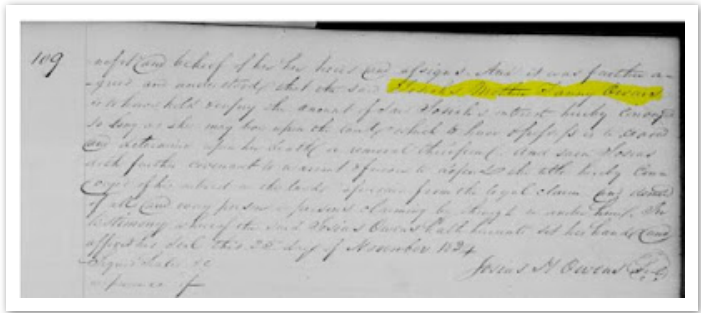
94	Samuel J.	13			Chas		95
95	Norma J.	4			"	1	96
96	William J.	34	M	Farmer	Geo	Chas	97
97	James "	25	F	Domestic		Chas	98
98	James St	13	M			Chas	99
99	John St	10	M			Chas	100
100	Mary St	8	F			Chas	101
101	Shadell	6	F			Chas	102
102	Arthur "	4	M			Chas	103
103	Chas J	2	F			Chas	104
104	William J.	27	M	Farmer	Geo	Chas	105
105	John "	27	F	Domestic		Chas	106

Here is another record that is even worse.

Deed book number in the order of recording.	Page number in the order of recording.	The name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1960, was in this family.	Description.			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male and female, over 15 years of age.	Value of Estate Owned.		Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Persons over 18 years of age who cannot read & write.
			Age.	Sex.	White, black, or other race.		Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
147	147	J. D. Owens	1	M					Ill			
148	148	J. D. Owens	1	M					Ill			
149	149	J. D. Owens	1	M					Ill			
150	150	J. D. Owens	1	M					Ill			
151	151	J. D. Owens	1	M					Ill			
152	152	J. D. Owens	1	M					Ill			
153	153	J. D. Owens	1	M					Ill			
154	154	J. D. Owens	1	M					Ill			
155	155	J. D. Owens	1	M					Ill			
156	156	J. D. Owens	1	M					Ill			
157	157	J. D. Owens	1	M					Ill			
158	158	J. D. Owens	1	M					Ill			
159	159	J. D. Owens	1	M					Ill			
160	160	J. D. Owens	1	M					Ill			

It appears Ancestry.com solved the problem of the difficult to read pages by leaving them off their site all together? I can't find page 1125 for Effingham County, Illinois?

I love the online records but now know to be extra cautious if records fail to surface when searching on genealogy websites. I did make a major find for the Owens family tree by searching FamilySearch deeds online. I found a new member of the Owens family named Julia Ann Owens born about 1810 in Kentucky. I also found a deed that confirmed what we suspected about Josiah Owens being the son of James D. Owens and Francis Watkins. The deed states Josiah was the son of Francis; leaving no doubt about his parentage. I could never afford to order all the films for every deed book necessary for research so the free online records have been so helpful.

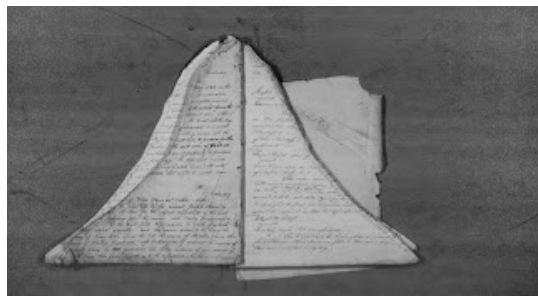


Sometimes the locked records at FamilySearch are a little puzzling as in why are some of these indexes searchable while others aren't? The Philadelphia, Pennsylvania A-H Grants indexes are searchable, while the I- Z are only searchable at the Family History Library or a Family History Center?

Grantor index to deeds v. C 1863-1867-1900	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	1338508	8087841	ED
Grantor index to deeds v. F 1883-1884	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	1338509	8088072	ED
Grantor index to deeds v. F 1885-1886	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	1338510	8088073	ED
Grantor index to deeds v. G 1883-1888	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	1338511	7899586	ED
Grantor index to deeds v. H 1883-1878	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	1338512	8088074	ED
Grantor index to deeds v. H 1879-1885	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	1338513	8088075	ED
Grantor index to deeds v. I 3. 1863-1876; v. K. 1851-1857 [v. K is located in the middle of v. I-3]	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	1338514	8088076	ED
Grantor index to deeds v. I & J 1879-1912	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	1338515	8088077	ED
Grantor index to deeds v. K 1883-1890	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	1338516	8088078	ED
Grantor index to deeds v. L 1883-1884	Family History Library	United States & Canada Film	1338517	8088079	ED

Sometimes you find the documents are badly damaged. I'm happy, however, that even the damaged records are searchable because who knows, someone may be able to decipher something from them?





Every site with census images has some that are illegible. I wouldn't assume that someone isn't on the census unless you've done a page by page search of a complete set of records. It's also possible a page of an online record could have been missed when the records were filmed. The fact you don't find something in online records doesn't mean it doesn't exist. Looking for other copies of records at more than one website, or offline, could help you find what you're looking for.

Posted by **Annette** at **3:21 PM**

No comments:



Thursday, January 31, 2019

## 2018 In Review: My Accomplishments and Looking forward to 2019



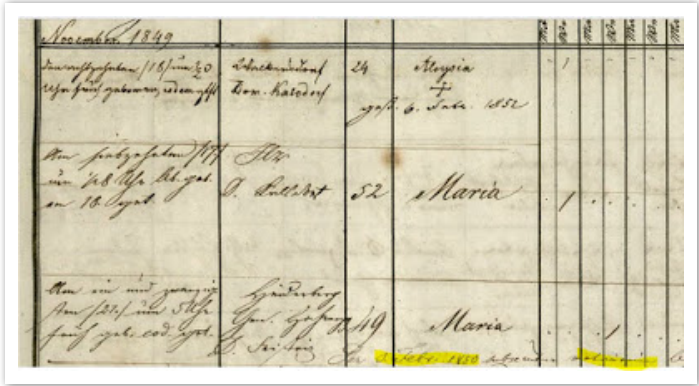
Austrian National Holiday Celebration Gussing, Burgenland, Austria 2018

2018 was another interesting year researching and traveling! With more and more information being uploaded to the internet I've been able to make even more progress.

I had a chance this year to trace my Austrian family because Catholic Church records are now online for that country. The records are searchable at <http://matriken.graz-seckau.at/> Paying a researcher in that country to research the records costs 50 euros, and

more an hours, which I could not afford.

From this website I found the birth record for my great-great grandmother Maria Bierbauer born 27 Nov 1849 in those records. I was able to trace lines of her family back to the 1600's. Her family migrated to Burgenland, Austria where the records don't extend that far back so my other lines in that area only go back to the late 18th Century. I also learned to read some basic German script writing as I was going through these records.



All of the records for my grandfather Rudolph Kapple stated that he was born in Hort, Austria and not Burgenland like his parents. I couldn't find a placed called Hort in Austria. I assumed it was a misspelling if it was in Austria. I also thought maybe Hort actually meant Ort, which could just be a word for town? For years I tried to find my grandfather's birth record in Burgenland. I looked at the **local civil registration birth records**, but nothing for him surfaced? This year I searched the records online again and discovered some of the birth records were recorded as much as a couple of years after the birth. I began searching beyond his year of birth. Didn't find anything this way either. I then went back to the register after realizing the names were written in Hungarian. Even though the Hungarian name for Rudolph appeared to be much different than the English and German spellings his parents names looked more similar. This year I finally solved that mystery and have my grandfather's birth record.

Év és évszám	A születés helye (or. hely, nap)	A születés ideje (or. év, hó, nap)	A gyermek anyja neve, vallása	A szülők család és utónév, anyja (magyarul), lakóhelye	Vál. áll.	Év-kor	A születés helye, ha a születés napj or anyja lakóhelye
1849.	1849.	1849.	Rudolf Kappel	Kappel János és Maria			

Rudolph's full name was Rudolph Christian Kapple or Koppel. Here his name was written in Hungarian

This record stated he was born in Hart, and not Hort, in Styria, Austria. I presented that information to the Burgenland Bunch group at Facebook. Someone at the group found my grandfather's birth record in the parish where Hart is located. 2018 has also been a great years for collaboration in the Facebook genealogy groups.

Der Tote				Der Tote			
Name und Stand				Name und Stand			
Vater	Mutter	Stand	Tafel	Vater	Mutter	Stand	Tafel
Rudolph Christian Kapple	Anna Maria Kapple	St. 1	1	Rudolph Christian Kapple	Anna Maria Kapple	St. 1	1
Rudolph Christian Kapple	Anna Maria Kapple	St. 1	1	Rudolph Christian Kapple	Anna Maria Kapple	St. 1	1
Rudolph Christian Kapple	Anna Maria Kapple	St. 1	1	Rudolph Christian Kapple	Anna Maria Kapple	St. 1	1

Rudolph's baptismal record from Styria Church book

I often check Ancestry.com for photos of my family. I've found a couple interesting ones this year. One picture I've been hoping to find has surfaced on Ancestry. I figured that since my great-great grandmother Mary Ann Browning nee Callahan lived until 1919 chances were good there were photos of her. One photo of her has been uploaded to [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com).

Ancestry shines when it comes to finding photos and documents attached to trees.

[Familysearch](https://www.familysearch.org) shines when it comes to the number of original records searchable online. I've spent many hours this year looking through original records now available online at [Familysearch](https://www.familysearch.org). Remember any records with a camera icon are searchable online either at home or at an LDS Family History Center.

2018 I also completed my goal of visiting all of the places my grandparents were born. In 2015 and 2016 I visited Granada, Nicaragua where my grandmother Graciela Forgey nee Del Castillo was born. In 2017 I visited Chicago where my grandmother Dorothy Kapple nee Mason was born. In 2018 I visited Jackson County Indiana where my grandfather Charles Lynn Forgey was born. I also visited Styria, Austria in 2018 where my grandfather Rudolph Christian Kapple was born. I paid a visit to Burgenland, Austria where many generations of my were born, and family lived. I started my journey to Austria in Germany where I also have roots.



2018 marked the first time this California native did courthouse research. I did some research at the courthouse in Brownstown, Indiana. I learned some new facts about my family and really enjoyed the seeing the original documents. I also learned the records can blacken your hands.



What do we have to look forward to in 2019? Record DNA sales should boost our number of cousins in the DNA databases. Expect to see 300 million more records which will be available at Familysearch. You can find out what's new at Familysearch by clicking on help then clicking what's new in the drop down menu. Familysearch is the site I will be spending most of my time on this year.

### What's Coming to FamilySearch in 2019

January 4, 2019 By Jan Mayer



The popular, free genealogy website, [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org), has many plans for the new year, including enhanced record search and Family Tree search capabilities, new online discovery experiences, and more!

In addition to over 300 million additional historical records and images for family history discoveries, look for the following new offerings in 2019.

#### 1. Online Interactive Discovery Experiences

For the first time, fun discovery experiences that have been available only at life-sized, interactive kiosks in select

This year I will be packing my bags again and heading to my great-grandmother Helen Mullen's birthplace Ireland. I also plan on visiting the ancestral homeland of Spain, and Quebec, Canada where my great-great grandfather Peter Mason was born. I'm writing a book about my John Owens Indian Trader family I hope to finish in the next couple of months. The amount of information now online, especially at [Familysearch.org](http://Familysearch.org), is helping me with this task.



I wish hope everyone has a productive 2019! Happy New Year!

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Posted by **Annette** at **1:18 PM**    **1 comment:**    

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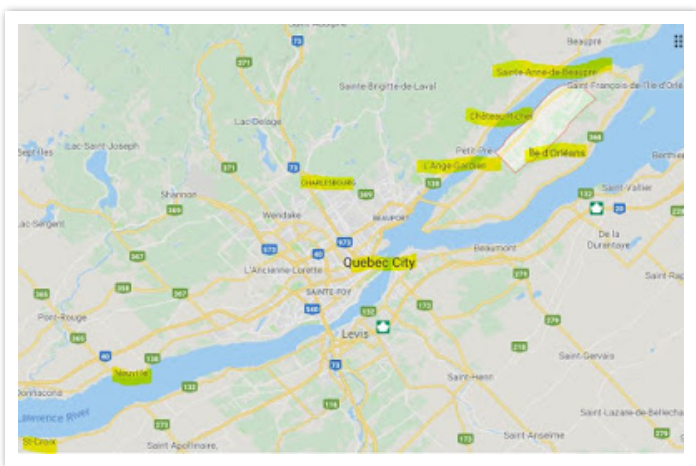
# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

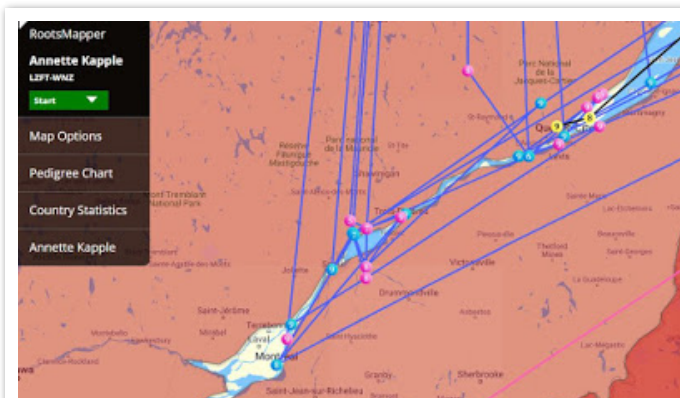
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[Research Goals](#)

Monday, August 5, 2019

## Planning A Trip To Quebec



I will be heading to Quebec on August 13. I will be staying in Quebec City so I'm trying to plot out ancestors who lived around Quebec City. Doing this I realized that most my ancestors never lived in any city, because of course, most were farmers, or had a trade, and practiced subsistence farming. Most of my ancestors lived in and around the Trois-Rivières area of Quebec. Some lived closer to Montreal also. My ancestor Peter Mason/Masson came to Illinois from Saint-Léon-le-Grand in the 1850's, and his ancestors had lived in the Trois-Rivières (Louiseville) area for several generations.



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2 weeks ago

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Map of my ancestral locations

The great record keeping and the survival of many records in Canada means I've be able to add hundreds of French Canadian ancestors to my tree. That much information can be overwhelming to make sense of. With that many lines to follow I've never really plotted all of their locations on a map. As in the United States families migrated from place to place.

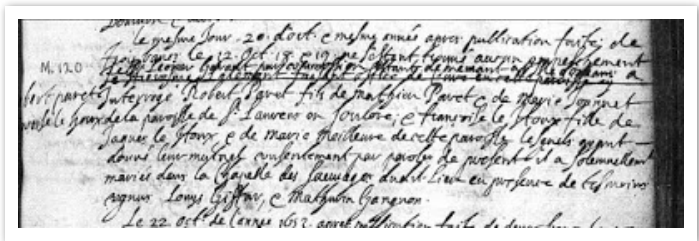
I'm not sure how many places I'll have time for on this trip? I'm not sure if I will go to Trois-Rivieres on this trip? The Masson family also lived in the Neuville and Sainte-Augustin-Desmaures before settling around Trois-Rivieres. That area is a little closer to the center of Quebec where I'm staying. I might just explore around Quebec City, depending how much there is to see, or venture farther away?

I do know that Abraham Martin was my first ancestor to voyage to the New World. The ship he sailed on was "Le Sallemandie". He arrived on 30 April 1620. He definitely spent time in Quebec City. I won't have to venture far to walk in his foot steps. I will definitely visit the plains of Abraham A description of the Plains of Abraham from "Historical Narratives of Early Canada".

*"The land had belonged to Abraham Martin, a navigator known as the king's pilot who knew the river waters well for he had frequently fished there and in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. In 1635 in return for his services, Martin had been granted 12 acres on the outskirts of Quebec and ten years later received an additional 20 acres as a gift. In 1667 Abraham sold the land to the Ursulines religious order. Chance had chosen this rustic spot, this peaceful patch of a farmer's field which became that day a giant stage on which the fortunes of war would decide the fate of two nations."*

His daughter Marguerite Martin was born in Quebec on 4 January 1624. She married Etienne Racine on the 22nd of May 1638 in the church of Notre Dame Notre-Dame-des-Victoires in Quebec. The couple later settled in Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré around 1650. I will definitely visit St-Anne-de-Beaupré. A newer chapel now sits on the foundations of the original church. The chapel has a plaque dedicated to the memory of this couple. Their house is said to still be standing. I will try to find it?

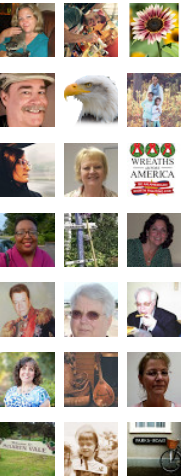
My ancestors Robert Pare and his wife Francoise Lehoux were also early settlers of St-Anne-de-Beaupré. According to what I've been reading the on internet the couple married in the Chapel of the Huron in 1653. I wanted to verify this so I looked up their marriage record. I wasn't seeing Chapel of the Huron? Then I realized it says Chapel of the Savages. I may check out the area where that was located?



I also have ancestors in the neighboring area of Chateau-Richer. My ancestor Joseph Masse Gravel and his wife Marguerite Tavernier lived in Chateau-Richer. They had married in 1644 in the Chapel of the Angeles in Quebec City.

Marin Boucher and Perinne Mallet were other early settlers of Chateau-Richer. Their daughter Madeleine, and my ancestor, married Louis Houde Houle in the church of Notre-

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Dame-de-Quebec in 1655.

Ancestors Robert Giguère dit Despins and Aymée Miville were married at Notre-Dame-de-Quebec in 1652. They lived in Beaupre after their marriage.

Louis Houde Houle is said to have come to the New World in 1647 aboard a ship called the La Marquerite. He owned land in Chateau Richer and Ste. Famille, Île d'Orléans. They apparently lived there for a number of years. This family migrates south to Sainte-Croix (Lotbinière), which is how they meet up with, and marry into, the Mason family which later settles in Illinois

Here is what Wikipedia says about the family in an article about Sainte-Croix, Quebec:

*"The first settlers arrived around 1680, including the family of Louis Houde, February 13, 1682, then living on the island of Orleans. He acquires Ursulines of Quebec a land of nine arpents front on a plateau, along the river. A first chapel was built in 1694 near the river on a piece of land donated by Louis Houde."*

Another ancestral couple Pierre Blais and Anne Perrault lived in Ste. Famille, Île d'Orléans. They married there in 1669.

Heading back a little closer to Quebec about 10 miles north of Quebec City where my ancestors Louis Fafard and Marie Ursule Jacob lived. They lived in L'Ange Gardien. They married there in 1696. Marie Ursule was born there in 1684. Etienne Jacob and Jeanne Fressel were her parents.

Moving 6 miles south of Quebec City to Sillery where my ancestors François Garnier and Jacqueline Freslon settled. They married in Sillery in 1663. They later migrated to Neuville where the Masson family lived.

Ancestors Aubin Lambert and Elizabeth Aubert were also early residents of Chateau Richer. They married at Notre-Dame-de-Quebec in 1670. They also lived near the Masson family in today's Sainte-Augustin-de Desmures.

Another ancestral couple Michel Thibault and Jeanne Soyer originally listed in Sillery, also had ties to Sainte-Augustin-de-Desmaures and Neuville, Their daughter Lousie Thibault married Rene Alarie in Neuville, Quebec in 1681. Here again we see where these families merged with the Masson family. Rene and Louise's granddaughter Marie Charlotte Alarie married our Pierre Masson in 1762 in Ste. Augustin, Quebec.

Jacques Greslon, occupation weaver, married Jeanne Vigneault in Notre-Dame-de-Quebec in 1657. They were listed as living in Beaupre on the 1666 Census. They were apparently living in the L'Ange Gardien. Their daughter Anne Greslon married Jean Masson in 1699 in Neuville, Quebec.

I now have a greater understanding of my French Canadian ancestors migrations through plotting their locations. There are 3 churches in Quebec I need to visit. Several of my ancestral couples are married in Notre-Dame-de-Quebec, one couple was married in Notre-Dame-de-Victoires, and another at Notre-Dame-des-Anges. I'll definitely visit all of the sites in Quebec City. I will also definitely visit the church and chapel in Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré. I also plan on doing some general sightseeing. I will see how much I can cram into a few days?

Below is a listed of places associated with my family:

- [2016](#) (24)
- [2015](#) (30)
- [2014](#) (53)
- [2013](#) (59)
- [2012](#) (76)
- [2011](#) (94)

## About Me



**Annette**

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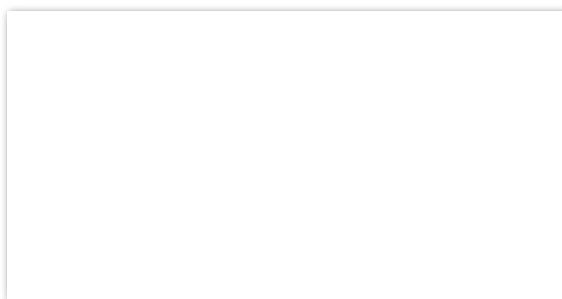
Posted by [Annette](#) at [1:53 PM](#)

No comments:

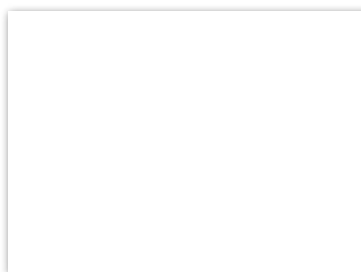


Wednesday, July 10, 2019

## DNA May Be Telling Me Something I Didn't Already Know

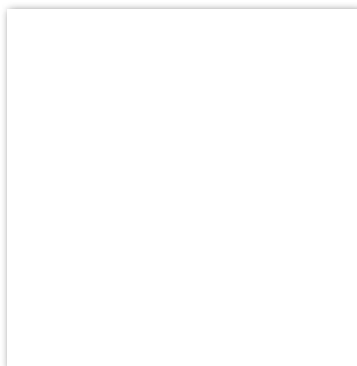
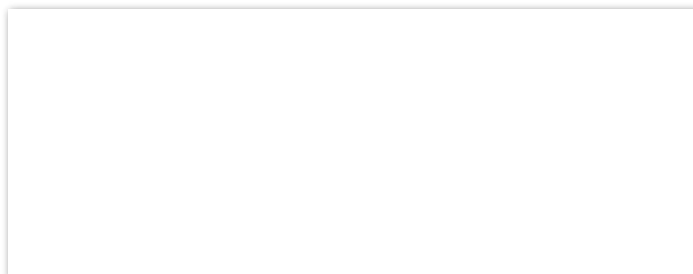


I would say about 99% of the time DNA has only verified something I had basically known already. Sometimes I've had only circumstantial evidence for ancestors living a couple centuries ago when record keeping wasn't very good. I've collected quite a bit of documentation during the over 20 years I've been researching my family. More specific places are now being included in our DNA results. Checking my mother's 23andMe ethnicity results I noticed they have predicted some specific areas in Ireland where she might have ancestry.

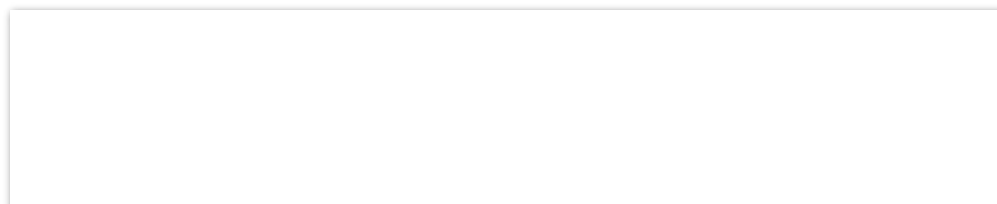




When I first saw this result I thought I had accidentally logged into my own account because I have recent known Irish ancestry, and my mother's Scots-Irish ancestry goes back 260 years and more. The place given as where she would most likely have had ancestors within the past 200 years was Limerick. This wouldn't fit well with her Scots-Irish ancestry. Then I remembered my mother's great-grandmother was Mary Ann Callahan (she married Richard Browning). She was the daughter of Jesse Callahan and Eve Urmey. I have proof of her birth stated in a War of 1812 record.

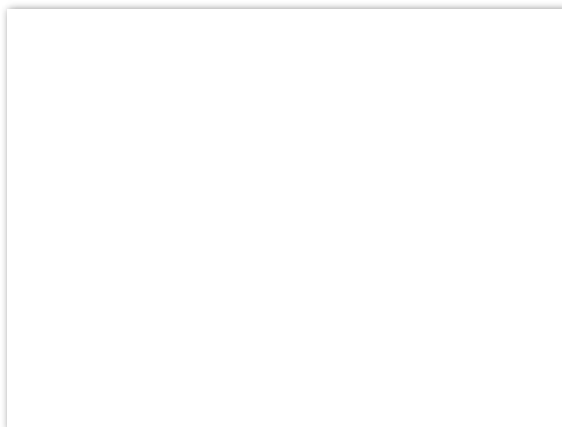


What always struck me about the surname Callahan is it didn't seem to be Scots-Irish. I always thought of the name as an Irish Catholic name. A Priest at our family Parish in Hacienda Heights surname was O'Callaghan. Also this family used the first name Dennis for many generations. A name I also associated with the native Irish population. Now I've found out the name Callahan is associated with a King of Munster and therefore common to that area. Limerick being in Munster would lend credence to my speculation that the Limerick prediction is associated with the Callahan family.





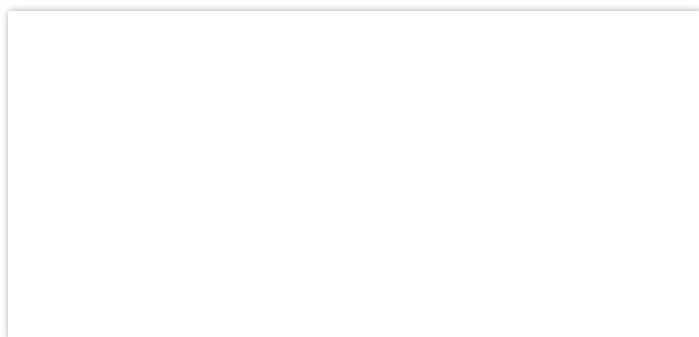
Dennis Callahan, father of Jesse b. 1795 Kentucky and grandfather of Mary Ann, on a 1795 Tax List for Mercer County, Kentucky



My own ancestors Jesse Callahan and Eve Urmy had a son named Dennis. We believe a Dennis who lived in Kentucky in the 1790's was Jesse's father because he later turns up with him living in Indiana, and Jesse states he was born in Kentucky.

What doesn't fit is the time period of 200 years. I suppose the 200 years that is stated for this result isn't exact and could be plus or minus a number of years? According to the "House of Names" a Dennis Callahan came to this country in 1680. I don't know if we are related to him? There aren't enough surviving records to take the family back any farther than the 1790's in the United States. One child in this family gave his father's birth place as Pennsylvania.

It was unusual for Catholics to come to America in the 18th Century and before. If they did they would likely have settled in Maryland where Catholics were free to practice their religion. So possibly the Maryland Dennis Callahan was Irish Catholic?

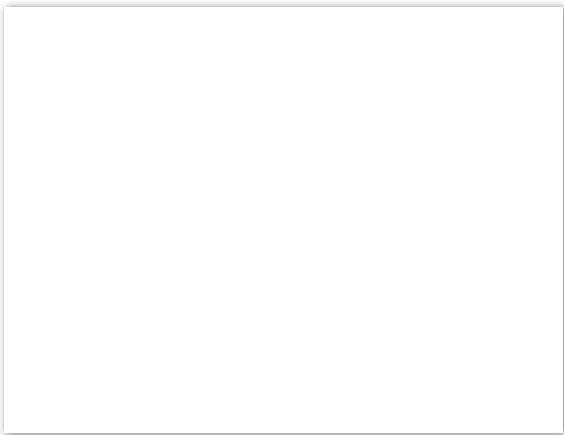


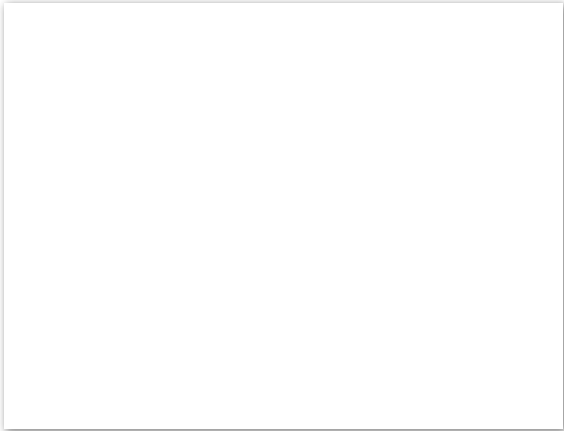
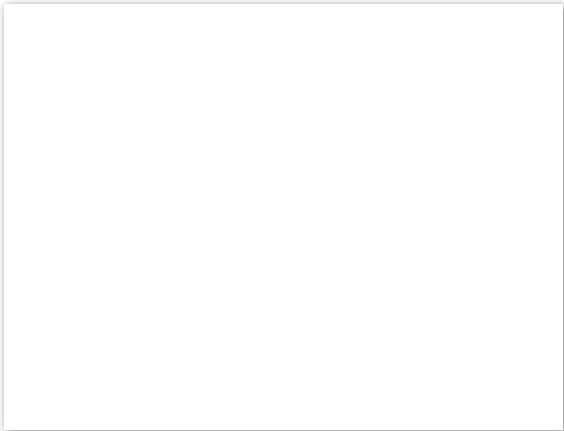
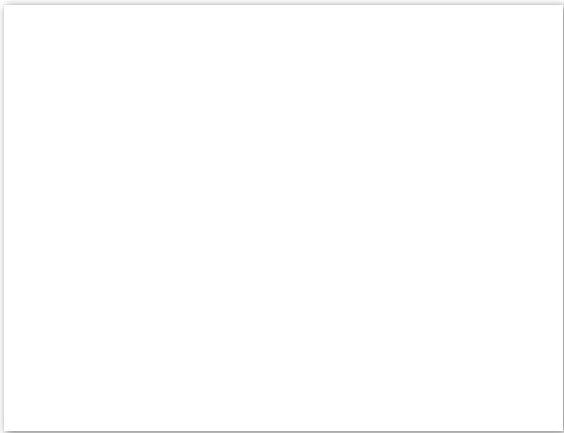
There is also a Callahan Y DNA project at Family Tree DNA. It sounds like the Y DNA R-L513 Haplogroup is too old to draw any conclusions from? The Y DNA project may eventually produce some matches of Callahan's in Ireland? They could support the Limerick location if we had some Callahans with Limerick roots as matches.

R-L513 or probable									
103795	Callahan		Unknown Origin	R-M269	12	25	14	11	11-16 12 12
209781	Callahan	Dennis Callahan Sr, b. bef 1765 USA, d. 1815 IN	Ireland	R-L513	12	25	14	11	11-16 12 12
34890	Callahan	Dennis Callahan, b. 1790, PA	Ireland	R-P25	12	25	14	11	11-16 12 12
Unidentified members and their Father's GED Test									

My assumption has always been that the Irish Callahan's married into a Protestant Irish, likely Scots-Irish family, in Ireland. I guess it's also possible they came to America as Catholics and converted? Unfortunately it is likely to be impossible to prove the Callahan family came from Limerick beyond a doubt? I'll do some research but there are likely too many record losses in both places to prove this beyond a doubt. I do feel like it's probable this family had been in Limerick at some point. I'm somewhat confident because 23andMe's prediction of Galway ancestry was correct for me.

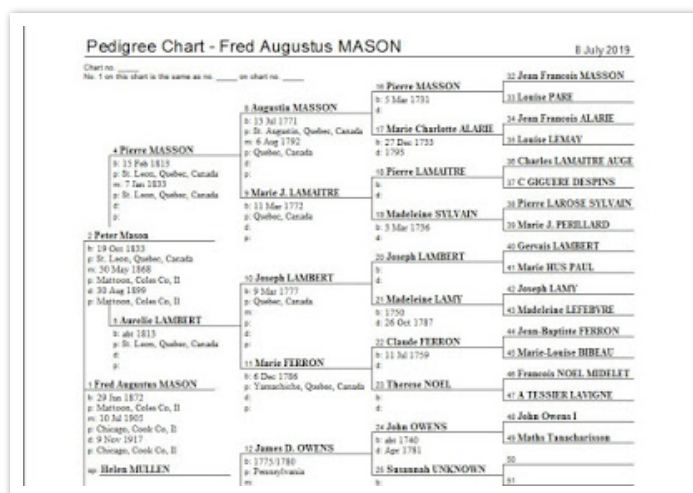
I was in Limerick in May. Here are some photos I took in and around Limerick.





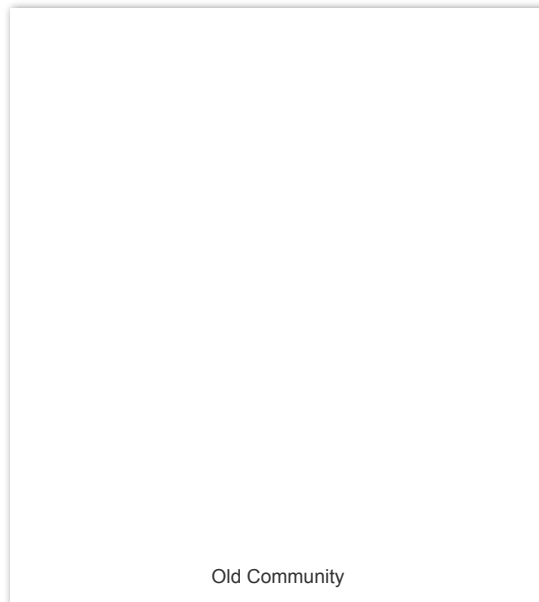


## New Community At Ancestry DNA/ And more specific locations

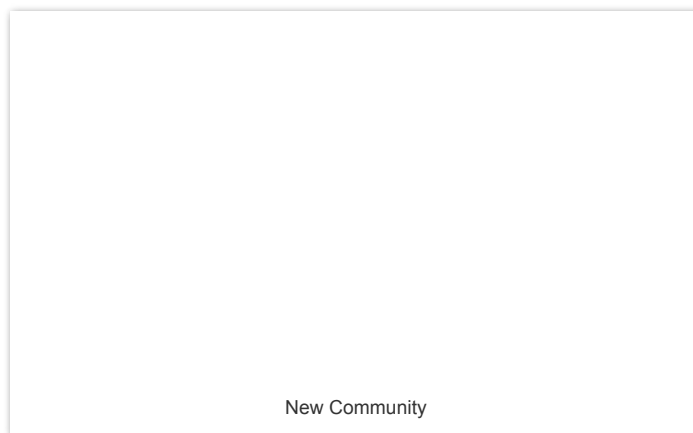


new community at AncestryDNA ([for an explanation about how DNA communities work click](#)

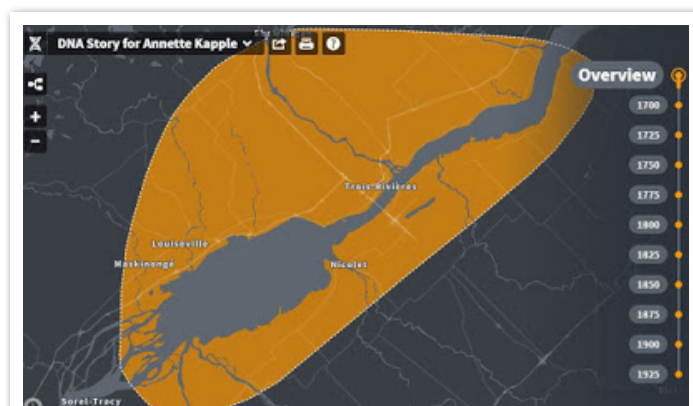
I had been placed in a community called "French Settlers Along the St. Lawrence". I'm now in a community that includes more specific locations. These communities would be correct because my family settled early in Trois-Rivieres and Maskinonge. There is also a mention of Vermont & Massachusetts. I'm sure some distant cousins settled there, but my direct French Canadian ancestor, Pierre Masson, settled in Illinois.



Old Community



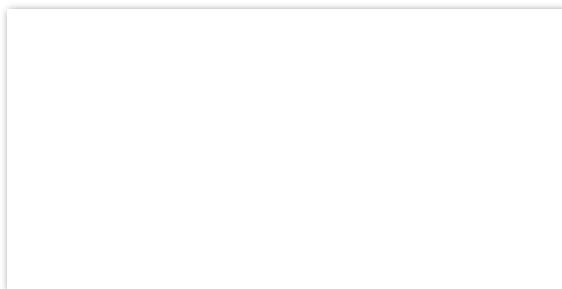
New Community



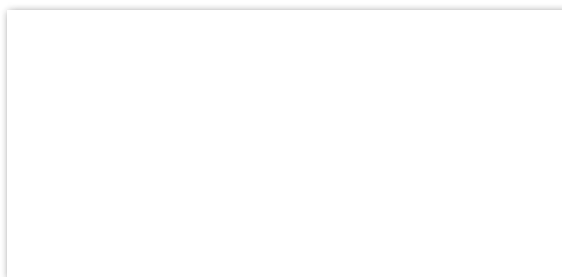
New French Canadian Map with Specific locations



I'm also seeing more specific locations for Ireland. Previously I only had the broad location of Connacht, Ireland as one of my communities. Now I have more specific locations of West Roscommon, East Mayo & North Galway. My Mullen family lived in the Northern Galway Townland of Pollaturick. I was just there in late May. My ancestor Patrick Mullen, of North Galway, married my ancestor Mary Huvane/Huane, who was from Co. Mayo right over the county border. There are some Mullens in Roscommon who may be distantly related as hinted by DNA matches from there?



Like I said before I have no United States American Communities at Ancestry. I would wonder whether I had any actual DNA ties to any place in the United States if not for my mother who has these communities. She definitely has Midwest Ancestry (but so does my father, and coming from two parents I still don't have these communities?). She has the specific "Indiana Settlers" because her father was born in Indiana and his family had been there since the 1820's and before. Before settling in Indiana they came from places like Virginia and Tennessee. So we do have DNA ties to America.



The communities are turning out to be much more accurate than the ethnicity estimates for my family.

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Posted by **Annette** at **1:48 PM**

No comments:



Friday, June 28, 2019

## Discrepancies In The Records/ A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Civil Registration Office



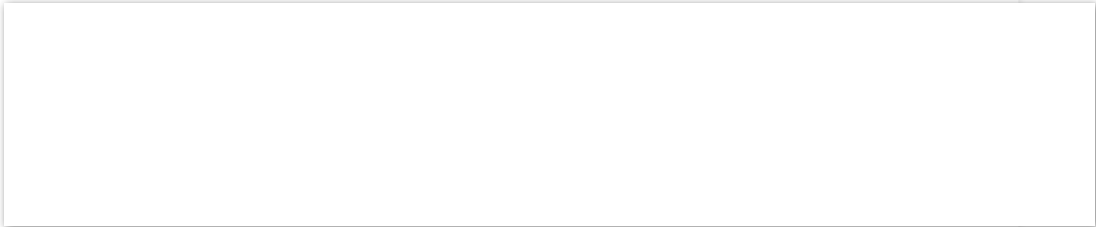
I've been looking over the documents I've collected for my family, and doing more research after my trip to Ireland. I had not searched for my family in the online Civil Registration birth records until now. I had some birth information already. My great-grandmother's baptism is recorded in local church records for Milltown, Addergoole Parish, County Galway, Ireland. Since my great-grandmother didn't register the births of her children in the United States I didn't think her parents would have bothered either. I was wrong. I finally got around to looking at the **Civil Registration** records for births, and all but one child's birth was registered. The problem now is sorting out the discrepancies in the documents.

Ellen/ Helen Mullen's birth certificate does correct the baptismal certificate, which named her mother as Mary Ruane. Her aunt's name was Mary Ruane or Ruvane, but her mother's name was Mary Huane or Huvane. The similar names caused confusion, I'm sure. These records do agree, however, on her date of birth 28 December 1880. However, this doesn't agree with the date of birth on her death certificate which was recorded as 26 December 1880. Helen's son, Edwin Mason, provided the information on her death certificate. I wonder if he gave the wrong date of birth, or someone hand wrote the information and 28 looked like 26? I would like to find a document where Helen provided her birth date.

I'm not finding her in the Social Security death index, and have no other documents with her birth date. I will change her date of birth in my records to the 28th. The records created closest to her birth are likely the most accurate. The **baptismal record** was created in 1880; although these entries may have been copied from the original book sent to Dublin and destroyed in the fire during the Civil War? The Civil Registration record wasn't created until April of 1881, four months after her birth. Apparently her family waited a long time to register her birth. Since both of these records agree I think that likely confirms her date of birth was the 28th.

LIBER BAPTIZATORUM, 15.									
Anno	Mensis	Die	Nomen	Cognomen	Pater & Mater		Sponsus	Sponsa	Notae
					Patris	Materis			
1871	May	5	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1872	May	8	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1873	May	10	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1874	May	15	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1875	May	18	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1876	May	22	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1877	May	25	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1878	May	28	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1879	May	31	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1880	May	3	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1881	May	6	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1882	May	9	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1883	May	12	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1884	May	15	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1885	May	18	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1886	May	21	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1887	May	24	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1888	May	27	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1889	May	30	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	
1890	May	31	John	McDonnell	John	Ann	John	Ann	

Ellen's sister Bridget's birth information is far more puzzling. Bridget came to America a number of years after her sister, around 1907. She was still living with her parents in Ireland when the 1901 Census for Ireland was taken. Soon after her arrival in America, joining her sister in Chicago, she became a Catholic Nun, changing her name to Sister Mary Kathleen Mullen. Sister Mary Kathleen lived to be 103 years old dying in 1991. The information contained in her eulogy stated that her parents were Patrick Mullen and Mary Huvane, and she was born 1 February 1888. I believed that the Nun who gave her eulogy must have had the correct information? I found Bridget's birth record in the Civil Registration records, and the date isn't just a few days off. The Civil Registration record states she was born 6 April 1888, not 1 February 1888.



Why such a big discrepancy? I decided to try to find another document with her date of birth. A Social Security record I found matches Sister Mary Kathleen very well. The date of birth is 2 February instead of the first. The date of death is the same, and I believe she may have spent some time in Iowa which is where the Social Security card was applied for according the Familysearch.org site?

INDEX RECORD FOR

Kathleen Mullen

Social Security Death Index

InfoMemorialsComments

Full Name:

Kathleen Mullen

Birth Date:

2 Feb 1888

Death Date:

14 Oct 1991

Social Security Number:

\*\*\*-\*\*-3116

Views:

1

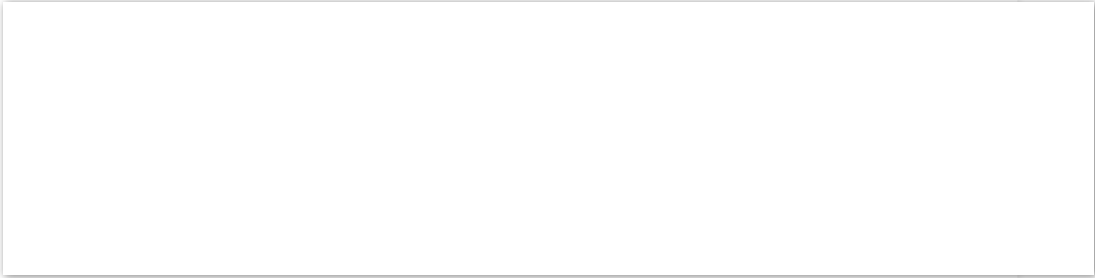
Unfortunately the baptismal book for the Parish of Addergoole, which would contain her baptismal record, is missing many pages. The year 1888 is missing so I can't use that record to verify her birth month.


The Catholic Nun, Sister Mary Naomi BVM, sent a copy of Sister Mary Kathleen's wake service and funeral mass to my grandmother, her niece. I'm not sure if Sister Mary Naomi, or someone else, put together the family history presented during the mass? Whoever collected the information did a good job because it is generally correct, as verified by marriage, birth, and census records in Ireland. The names of the children were given in birth order, which is very impressive so long after their births in 1991. Someone in my family added the name Patrick to the list which seems to be incorrect? According to Census records Mary Huvane Mullen gave birth to 5 children, and 5 were living in 1911. The Irish Census is notoriously off when it comes to the ages of adults, but most of the other information is generally correct. The accuracy of the information provided during the church services leads me to lean towards February as her birth month. Her employer, the church, would have her birth date plus the Pope sent her birthday greetings on her 100th birthday.



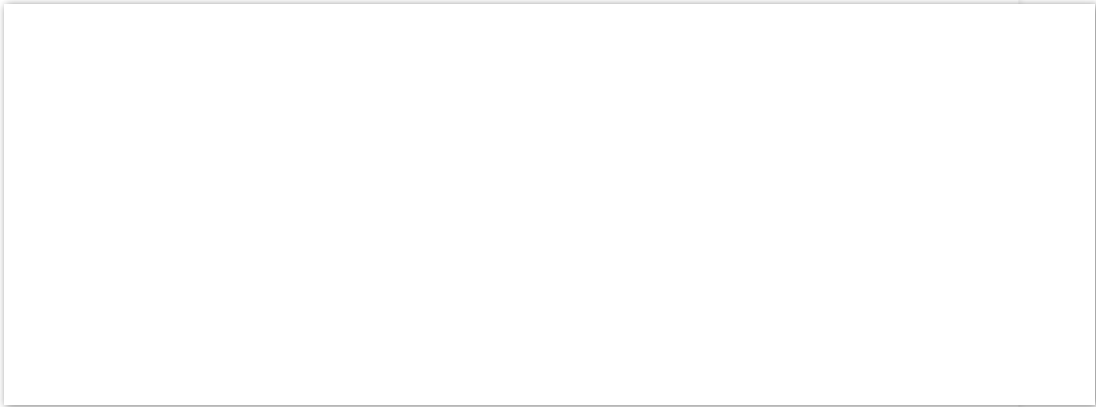
So why are the dates of birth so far off? My guess is the family gave a fictitious date of birth because they worried about being fined for registering the February birth in late April. I'm seeing various requirements for reporting a birth before a fine kicks in. Some say parents had to report a birth within 6 weeks, and others say 3 months. It's possible the time period varied before a fine was charged. The Mullens reported their daughter Ellen's birth 4 months late. They may have been fined and decided to change Bridget's birth date.

I have the birth date 28 March 1882 for Michael Mullen. The Civil Registration record states he was born 28 May. I thought that maybe I just misread May as March, and that was my mistake. I got out the baptismal record you see below and it states he was born 28 Mar 1882, and was baptized 2 April 1882. If he was baptized on the 2nd of April he could not have been born May 28th. Again the records don't match. Again I believe the family was worried about a fine, and changed the date of birth. I believe that the birth date on the baptismal record is most likely correct and will keep that date as his birth date. After his marriage to Ellen Charles in October 1917 I lose travel of Michael. I will keep researching to find out if he left Ireland?





Thomas Mullen's birthday was 15 June 1884 according to the Civil Registration record for him. Since I have no other record of his birth because the year 1884 is missing in the Baptismal Book I can't verify this is correct. He is said to have been born the same month as his birth was registered, which is suspicious because we know his parents generally weren't that timely in registering births. I will record that date with a question mark?



Then we have Winifred Mullen (my grandmother's name was Dorothy Winifred, namesake of her Aunt) who I can't find any records for other than the 1901 and 1911 Census when she was living with her parents. I can't find any registration of her birth, or marriage record, or death record? I wonder what happened to her?

Why the tardy registrations? Maybe they were headed the the Civil Registration Office within the required time but met a friend and decided to go to the pub in Tuam or go shopping? Or more likely distance and weather played a role. I believe they would have had to travel 10 miles to Tuam to register the birth. They seemed to wait until late spring, and in one case summer, when the weather would be better to register the births.

Somehow they never managed to get to the Civil Registration office on time leaving me with some inaccurate dates of birth and record discrepancies I need to work out.

The ultimate takeaway is if you have an exact birth date for an ancestor and you are looking for them in Civil Registration records you may find them using that date, but if you don't find them keep looking because a fabricated date of birth may have been used to avoid a fine. The fabricated date could be a different month or even a different year than you have for that ancestor.

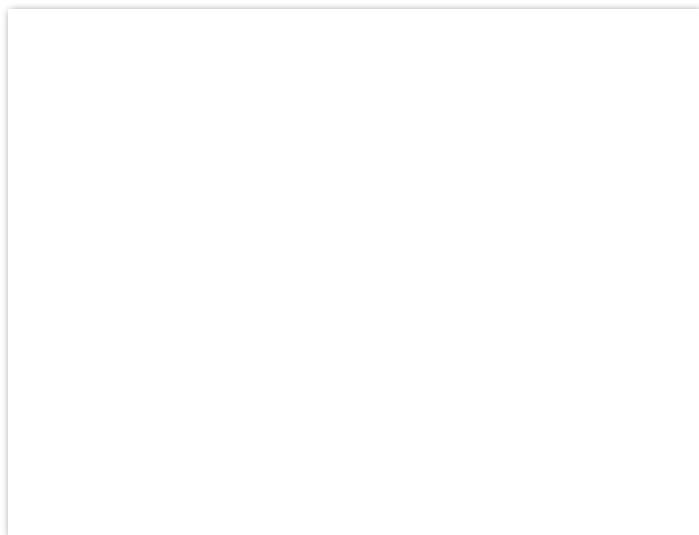
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Posted by **Annette** at **1:16 PM**    **1 comment:** 

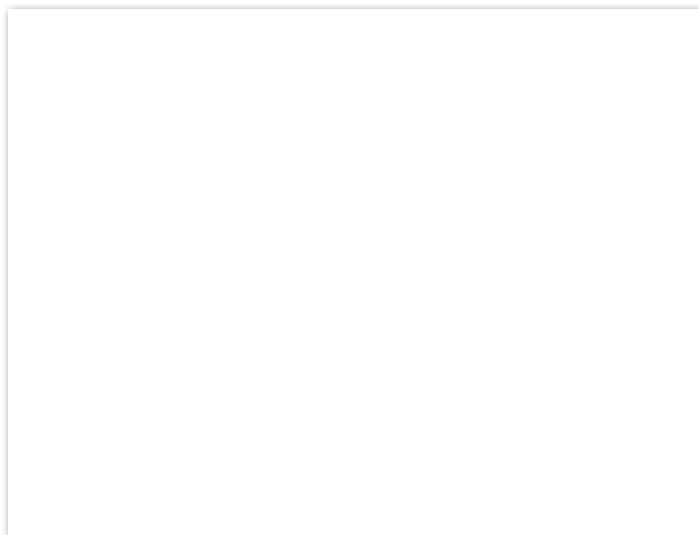
Wednesday, June 19, 2019



## A Visit to My Great-Grandmother's Birthplace in Ireland



My Great-Grandmother Helen Mullen-Mason was born in the townland of Pollaturick in Co. Galway, Ireland. I just returned from my first visit to that area in May of this year. This is my summary of my visit.



I began my first official visit to Ireland, other than the airport a couple years ago, in Dublin where I spent 3 days exploring in and around Dublin on my own. With limited time I thought I might not make it to Kilmainham Gaol. I'm glad I was able to fit it in because it's an important place to learn about Irish history. The story of the Plunketts is memorialized in a song called "Grace". When I heard the song sung at Murray's bar in Dublin I understood what it meant because of my visit to the gaol.



I took a day trip to Cashel to where I toured the ruins and the town.



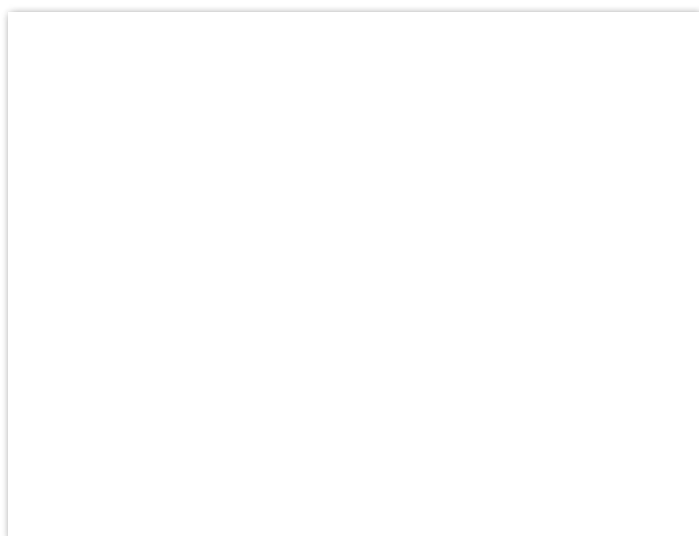
On day 4 in Dublin I joined a bus tour. I joined the "Treasures of Ireland" tour with Trafalgar. Our tour ate at Nancy's Hands, an historic pub in Dublin, on the first day of our tour. The next day we left Dublin for a tour of Glendalough. We wondered if it might be closed because there was supposed to be a security sweep for a visit of the Prince of Wales the next day?

Lucky it wasn't. Glendalough was one of my favorite sites in Ireland. The tour group that visited the next day got to meet Prince Charles on his tour of the site.

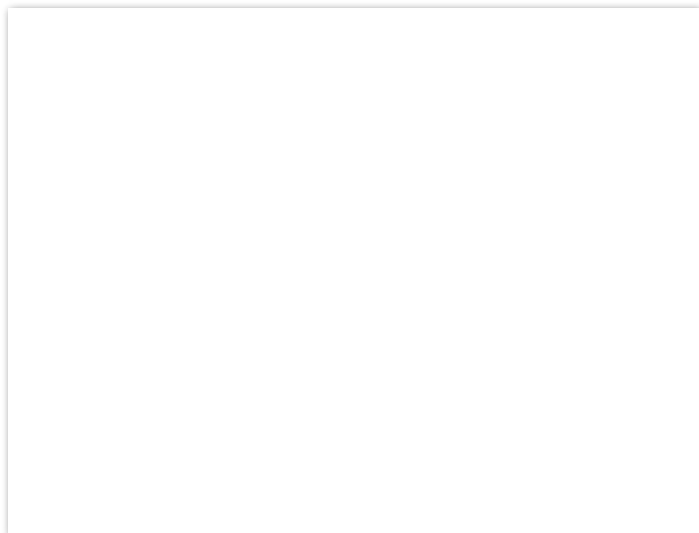


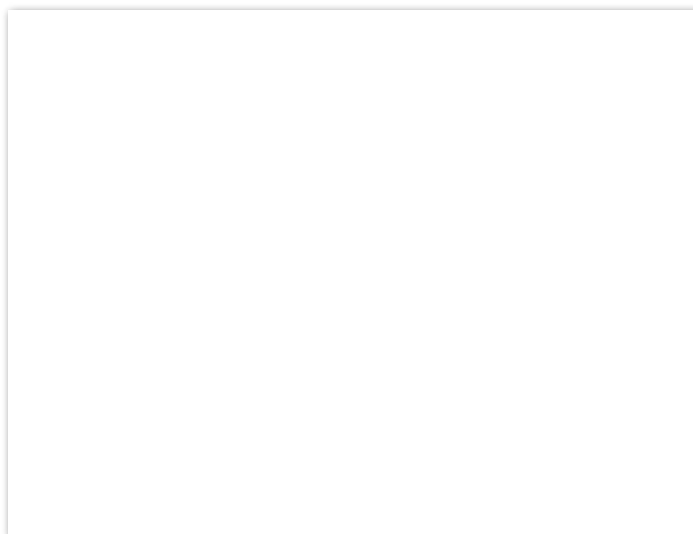
From Glendalough we went to Waterford, and then to our hotel in Cork. During our stay in Cork we visited the town of Cobh, the port where my great-grandmother would have boarded her ship bound for America when she was 18 years old. A tour guide walked us around the beautiful town explaining its maritime history.





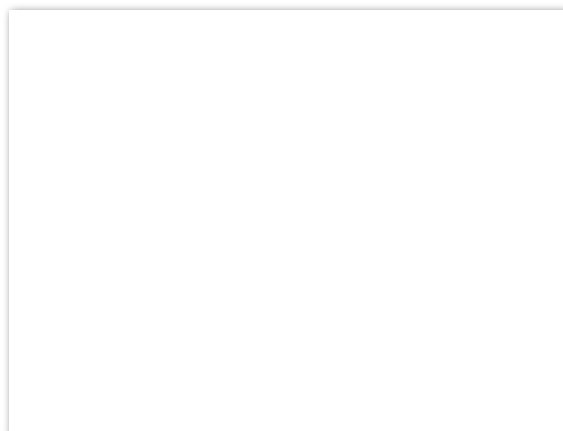
The next stop on our tour was Killarney where we stayed in one of my favorite hotels the Killarney Avenue Hotel. Loved the atmosphere at this hotel, plus they have a great nightly show featuring Irish dancing and singing. My room had a great view too. Also an awesome park and garden were right across the street.



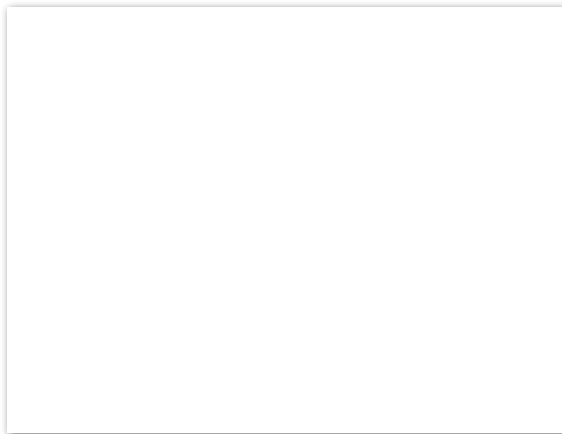


Killarney was a base from which we explored the beautiful National Park and Blarney Castle. We took horse cart rides through part of the Killarney National Park where we took in the beautiful views and spotted many deer.

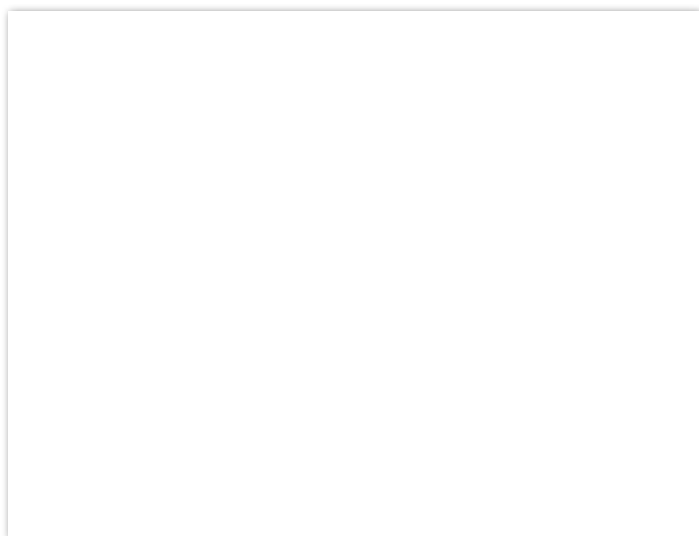
We also spent a few hours at Blarney Castle. I didn't kiss the Blarney Stone. Instead of kissing the stone I spent a few hours walking around the beautiful gardens admiring the gorgeous Rhododendron that were in bloom. I wish there were benches to sit and admire the gardens, there are no benches.



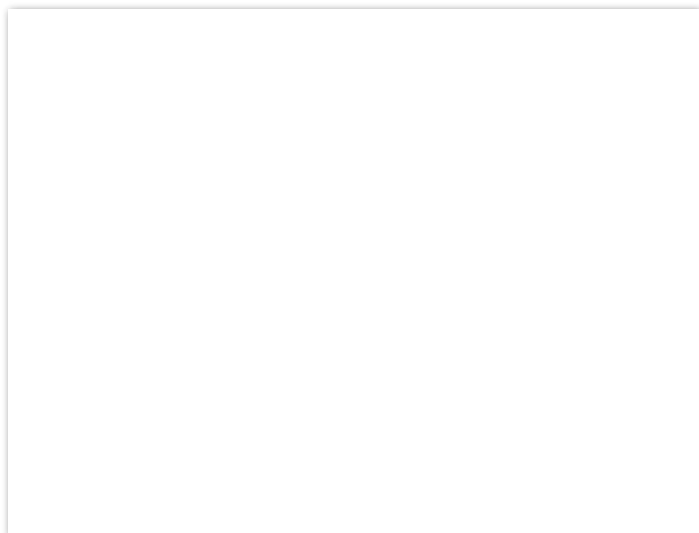




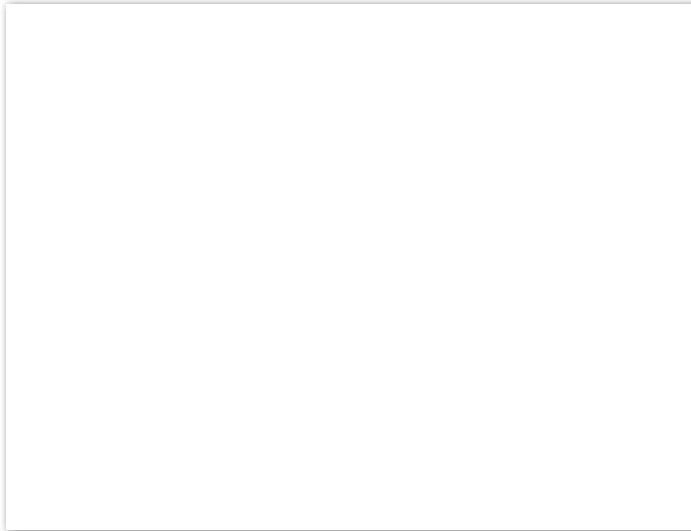
The next morning we walked around Killarney National Park and up to Torc Waterfall which was very beautiful.



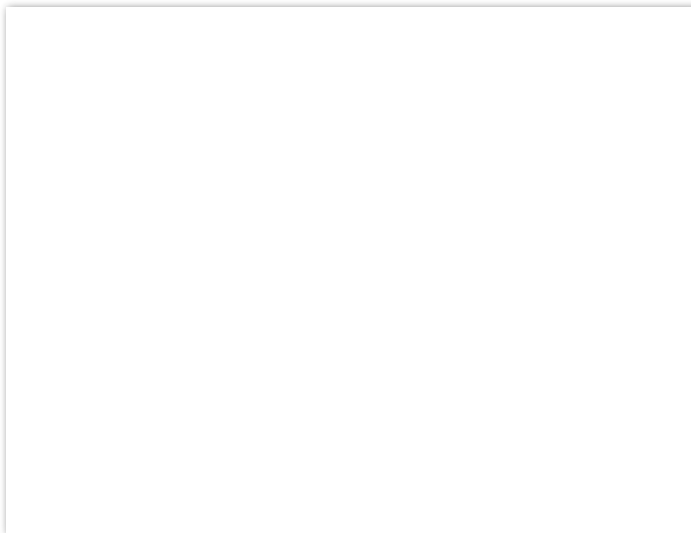
The gardens in Killarney National Park contain Monterey Cypress trees which have actually thrived in the Irish climate. They seem to do better in Ireland than California.



After our morning walk in the beautiful warm sunshine we headed to the Ring of Kerry where the weather was much cooler and overcast. I loved the drive around the Ring the scenic views of the rocky land with rock walls, and the stone cottages with sheep grazing are exactly the views I envisioned and even better.



Isolated homes and cottages stretching to the sea create bucolic views. Wild Rhododendron grows all around this area. The purple flowers are pretty but are considered a weed, and efforts are being made to eradicate it.



That evening our tour group enjoyed some great food and entertainment at a cottage at Muckross Farm. It was a nice cozy venue for good conversation and entertainment without the noise of a pub.

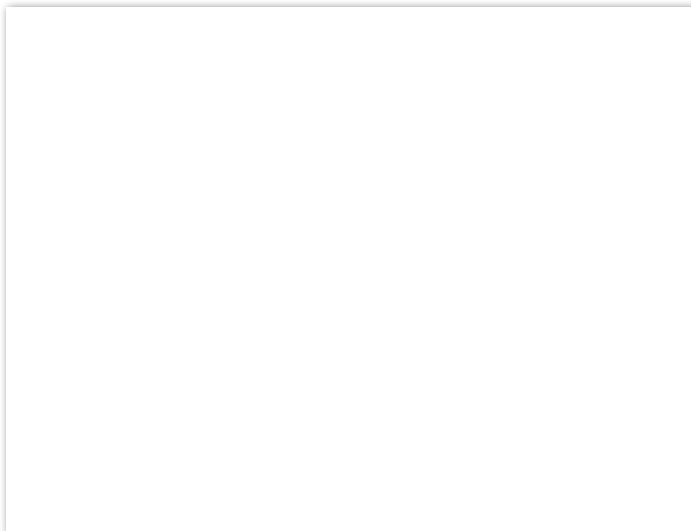


After two nights in Killarney we moved on to Limerick our base for the Cliffs of Moher. The Cliffs are spectacular and a must see in Ireland.



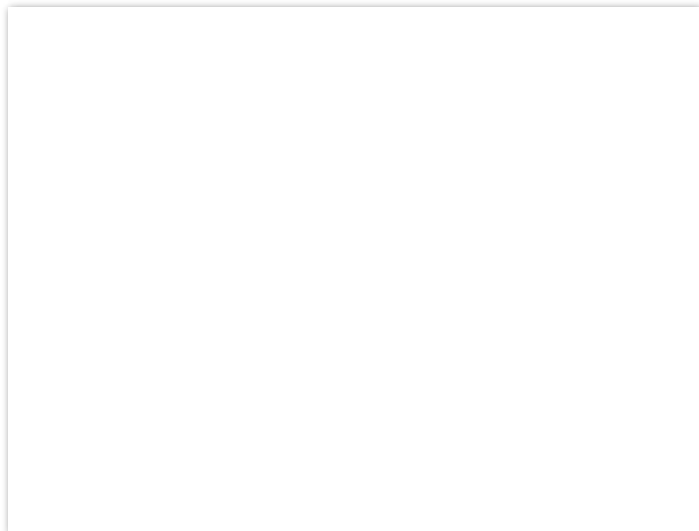


After our adventure at the Cliffs we spent the evening at a castle enjoying some entertainment with dinner.

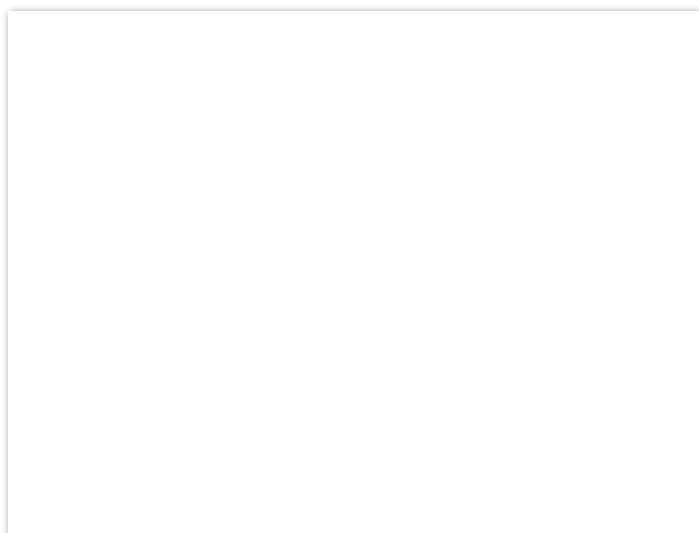


The next day I waved goodbye to the tour I spent 6 days with as the bus left to take some of our group back to Dublin for their flight home. I headed to Bunratty Castle and Folk Park which I found to be outstanding. If you're interested in the history of Ireland, and what life was

like for ancestors living there, this is a must see. When I first entered the park I thought it was just a few houses and the castle, which if that were all was pretty impressive. Instead of just a few reconstructed cottages and Bunratty Castle it extended even further beyond what I originally saw with reconstructed mills, a church, farm buildings, a large house, a school, and small town. All trades are represented in the reconstructed cottages and other buildings.



In the evening after my tour of Bunratty Castle and Folk Park I headed 72 miles north to Tuam in Co. Galway. It was a Friday evening and traffic on the main street in Tuam was crazy. I didn't think they would have traffic jams there but there are only a few roads that everyone uses.

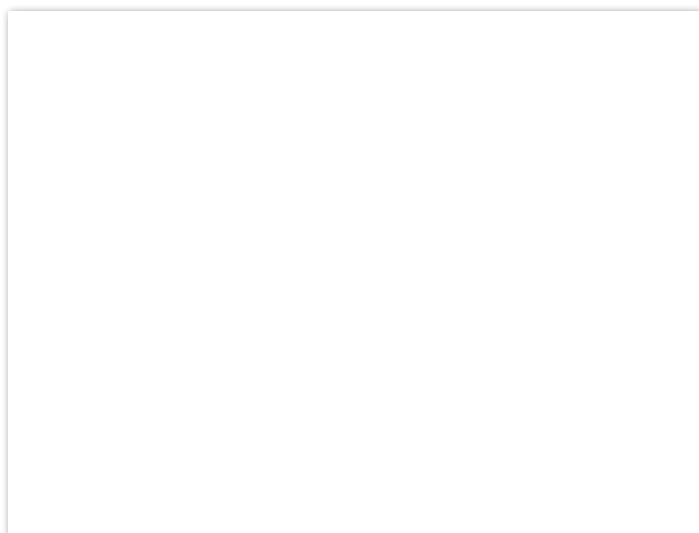


After dumping off my bags at the Corralea Hotel I was able to do some site seeing around Tuam. The Corralea Court has undergone some renovations since the Google Street view. I didn't recognize it when I got there. The interior seems to be newly renovated too.

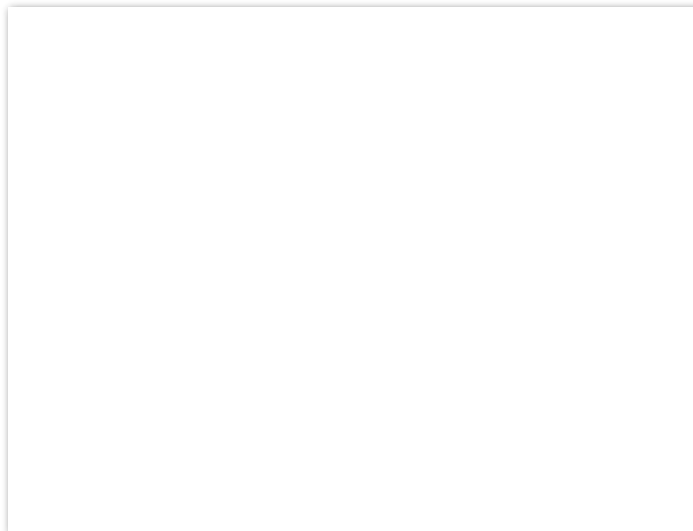
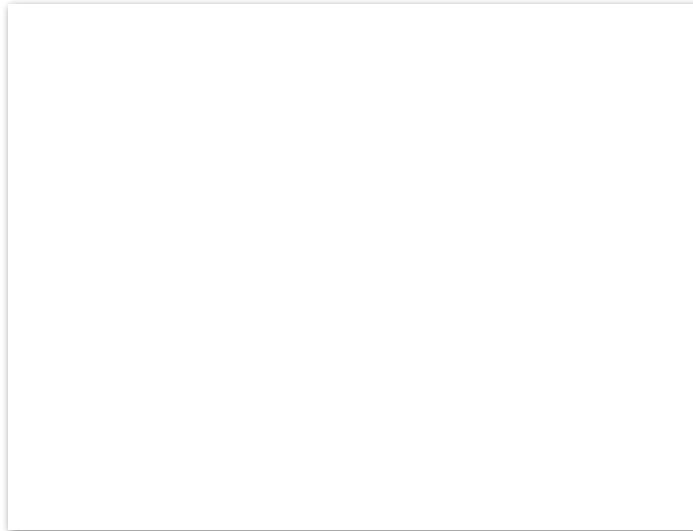




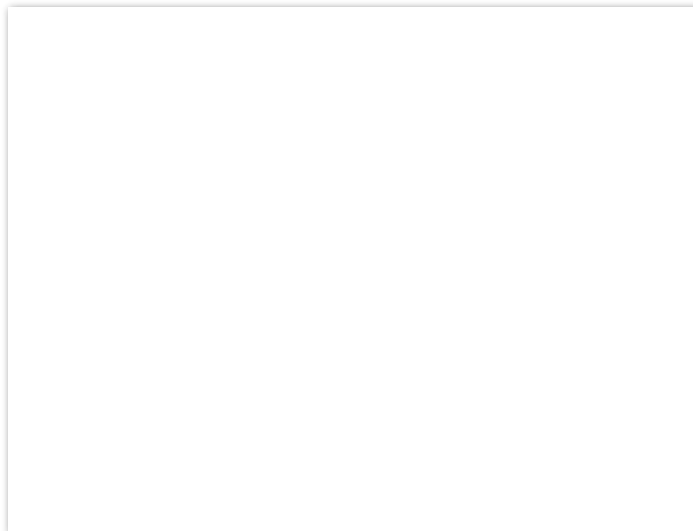
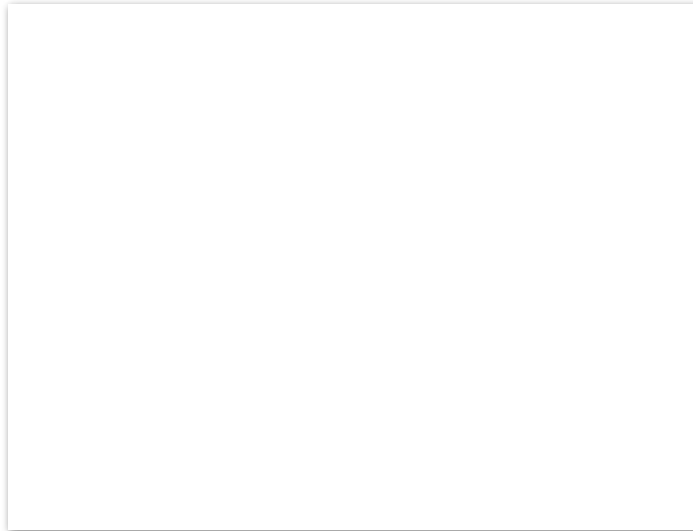
It took me about 15 minutes to cover most of the town. A local election was taking place with an Irish ballot measure on divorce. It's likely the election added to the traffic jam. I ran across many people still campaigning for their candidate, and waiting for the polls to close. Interesting to see how campaigns are conducted in rural Ireland.



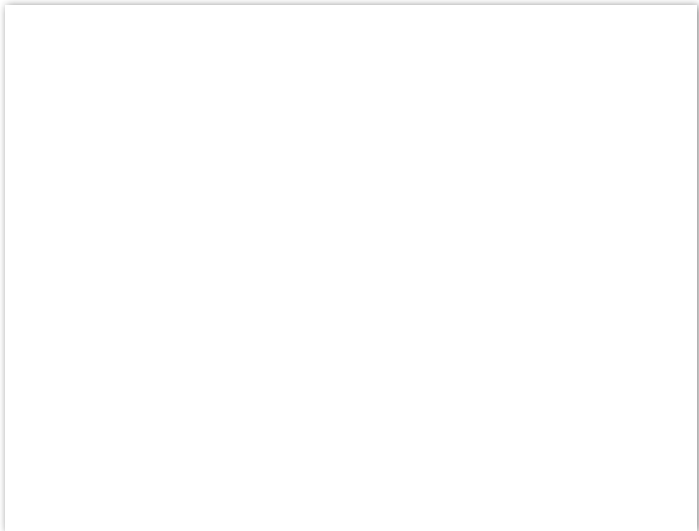
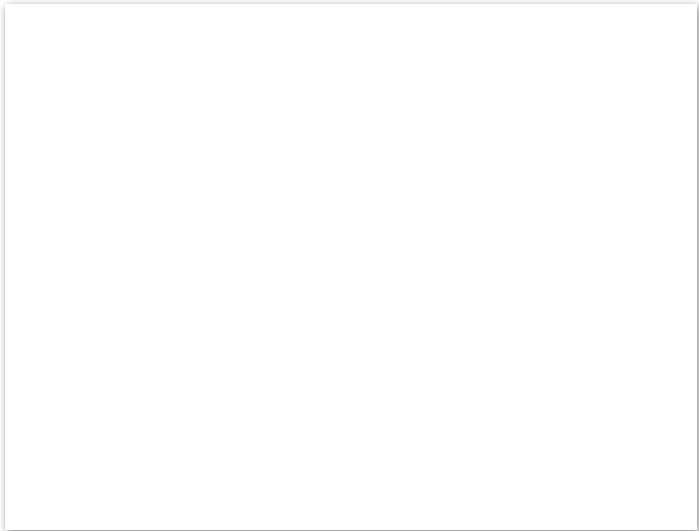
I was able to look inside the Cathedral of the Assumption, but the older church St. Mary's (now church of Ireland) was locked. Disappointing that Temple Jarlath's ruins were locked and gated off.



For the next 3 days I divided my time between exploring Tuam, Milltown, and Pollaturick.



Day 2 I ventured out of Tuam to Milltown and Pollaturick, the area where my ancestors lived, and my great-grandmother was born, about 9 miles from Tuam.



I had mapped out exactly where the Mullen house and property were located using Griffith's Valuation maps. Before heading over to the house I wanted to talk to some of the neighbors to confirm I had identified the correct property. The first person I spoke with said he lived in Pollaturick for 30 years, a long time but not long enough to know the early history of the area. He described the land I pointed to as Walsh land, which threw me off. I then spotted another neighbor pulling into their driveway and asked what he knew about the property. He also talked about the Walsh family, but did know that Mullens also lived on the property. He remembered a Michael Mullen associated with the property. Michael was the brother of my ancestor Patrick. Michael died in 1939, while my ancestor Patrick died in 1930. The brothers had split this property after their father died. A daughter of Michael took the property over after he died. It seems all of the other members of the Mullen family migrated elsewhere, or had died. An owner of the property is currently in a nursing home in Clare.

I believe the larger house on the family property in Pollaturick was likely built by the father of Patrick and Michael Mullen. Patrick Mullen Sr. is listed as living on lot 1 in Griffith's Valuation so we know he lived in Pollaturick from at least the 1850's. The neighbor I spoke with said one of the ruined buildings on the property likely dated back at least 200 years. A map produced between 1837 and 1840 does show a house in that area facing the same direction.



The helpful neighbor gave me a ride down to the house and opened the gate so I could get a better view of the out building. This neighbor knew Mullen family members had settled in Chicago and a relative had become a Nun. I assumed he was referring to Sister Mary



Kathleen?





Visiting the Bunratty Castle and Folk Park helped me understand the layout of the Mullen house. I wondered how a family of possibly 7 members could live in a two room house. Lofts

were a way to extend the amount of space without adding a full second floor. Below you can see a window high on a side wall. This window likely provided light for a loft room.



Here are some examples from the Folk Park of how the lofts were laid out. It seems a detached ladder provided access to this space. The ladder could be moved to provide more space when the loft wasn't in use. When I first saw the loft rooms I was thinking how did they get up there? Until I spotted the ladder.







Here you can see the back of the Mullen house has been over taken by bushes and trees. It looks like no one has been living there for decades. There is an old bicycle and other items stored in the old house. It looks like the house may have been used as a barn before the property was abandoned?

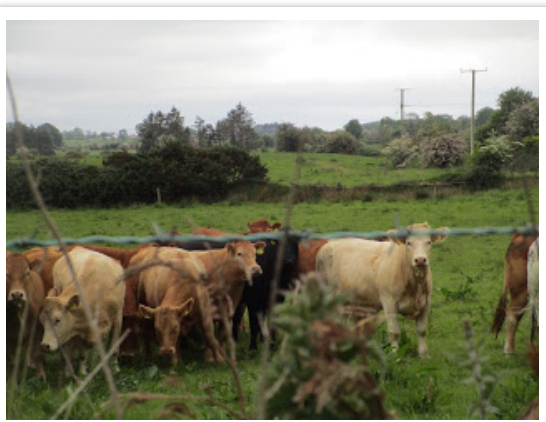








I explored Pollaturick until the late afternoon. I made friends with the local animals and admired the amazingly beautiful blooming Hawthorn.

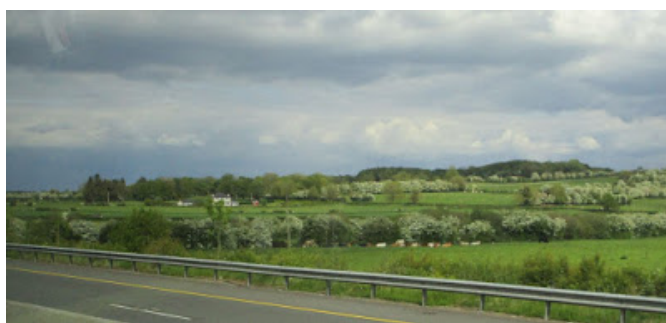


I think May must be one of the most beautiful months to visit Ireland. Since the sky was overcast I don't think I ever got a picture that did justice to the beauty of the blooming Hawthorns with their pink and white blossoms. These bushes were planted along fence lines.





Here are some pictures showing hawthorns clearly used on fence lines. The thorns on the tree or bush will definitely keep you on the right side of the fence.



In the afternoon I explored Milltown about 1 mile away. I loved the name of a local bar named Mullarkey's. I took a look at the local catholic church which was very nice, and signed the guest book. The town stretches for about a long block with most of the amenities you might need other than an ATM, which I could not find. I tried to get cash back at a service station but couldn't?







The next day I headed back to the Milltown area, this time to visit a cemetery where Michael Mullen is buried, a great-great uncle of mine. The location of the cemetery is very nice with a view of a stone bridge on one side. Visiting the cemetery and reading Michael's tombstone I remembered that Michael had married a Mary Ruane, something I forgot when I was talking to the locals. My ancestor Patrick married a woman with a similar name, her name Mary Huane. The similarity of the names caused confusion in the old church records, and also confusion when I talked to neighbors in Pollaturick. They brought up the name Mary Ruane, but that wasn't my ancestor. Michael's tombstone says Mary Ruane is buried in Addergoole Cemetery. My own ancestors graves are unmarked.

The marker's placed on Michael's grave also cleared up why everyone associated the Mullen family with the Walsh family. Markers for Michael and Mary's grandsons are placed on the grave and their last name is Walsh. One grandson died in the United States. So this is where



Walsh comes in. This saved me some research. Although I don't know who Bridget Mullen married? Could she have married a Walsh also? I need to find out who this great-aunt married?









After visiting the cemetery I headed back to Milltown to explore the park on the beautiful river Clare.



There are some historic artifacts scattered around the park. I was so happy to see the baptismal font from the old Milltown Chapel at the park. My great-grandmother would have been baptized with water from that font, and other ancestors.



A combination potato washer and animal trough is also on display at the park.





Of course you'll also find mill related artifacts at Milltown Park.



I guess the ruined structure below is part of an old mill?



I admired this manor house near Milltown. Not sure of the history, but it is beautiful.



After my morning exploration of the area I was able to make it back to Tuam in time for a church service at St. Mary's Church in Tuam. A church service is the only way to get inside. It was worth it. It's a beautiful church. I was so happy to get the opportunity to see the Hiberno-Romanesque Arch and other surviving portions of the ancient church, which dates back the the 12th Century, and the old high cross that used to stand on the main road before someone



ran into it. It's possible some of my blood relatives attended church here before the Reformation?



After church I headed to a supermarket to pick up something for a late lunch. I walked around the market and didn't see anything interesting except Irish potatoes. There is a cafeteria connected to the market housed in the old archbishop of the church of Ireland's Palace. I decided to eat there and the food was very good.





The restaurant at the Corralea Hotel is also very good.

Now that all the beer kegs were empty it was time to leave Tuam.



Before leaving Ireland I did some sightseeing around Galway City.

There are really beautiful abbey ruins in Claregalway. The ruins are from a medieval Franciscan abbey.



I went into a shopping mall in the city of Galway to escape a brief shower and was surprised to find the old city wall enclosed in this mall.



I took a bus from Galway across the country to Dublin to catch my flight to the next leg of my journey in Spain. The earlier showers had stopped and rain soaked Dublin was looking good in the sunshine as I took a last look before saying goodbye.



It was a wonderful first trip! I look forward to returning to Ireland again and exploring more of the country in the west.



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Posted by [Annette](#) at [2:20 PM](#)    4 comments:    

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)
[My Pedigree Charts](#)
[Research Goals](#)

Friday, August 23, 2019

## A Summary of My Trip to Quebec



I just returned from a week long trip to Quebec City and its environs. I wanted to learn more about my French Canadian Heritage and see the beautiful scenery. My paternal grandmother was Dorothy Winifred Mason. Her French maiden name was anglicized, it was originally Masson, which is the version found in the records in Quebec. Her grandfather Peter/Pierre Mason/Masson was born in Saint-le-Grand, Quebec in 1833.



Someone as wrapped up in the history as I was

A tour guide told me you can often tell where someone is from based on their surname. For instance Pare is common in Beaufort, Boucher in Montreal, and Gagnon is common in Quebec.



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My Grandmother Dorothy Winifred Mason/Masson

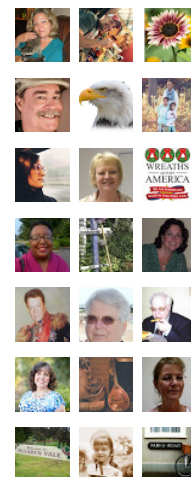
### Now to begin the tour summary

The first thing that caught my eye entering the old town of Quebec City is the beautiful Fontaine de Tourny fountain. This is a relatively new addition to the city as it was installed in 2007 to commemorate the 400th Anniversary of the City. It is much older than that however. It was created by French sculptor Mathurin Moreau for the 1855 Paris World's Fair.



The Quebec Parliament building across from the fountain is another beautiful site that catches the eye entering the old city. Constructed between 1877 and 1886 it was designed by architect Eugène-Étienne Taché.

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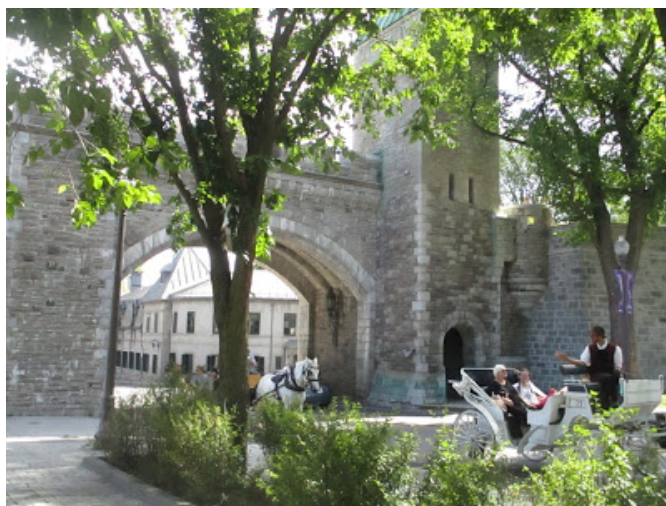
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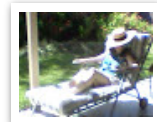


From the Rue des Parlementaires a left turn takes you through the main gate into the walled old city of Quebec. This gate leads to a main thoroughfare called Rue Saint Louis which is lined with shops, restaurants, and hotels. At the end of this street is the famous Hotel Frontenac.



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- [2014](#) (53)
- [2013](#) (59)
- [2012](#) (76)
- [2011](#) (94)

## About Me



**Annette**

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## Feedjit





I've decided to layout my summary using the chronology of the history of Canada.

### **The Story Starts with Arrival of the Indigenous Peoples**

The human history of Quebec begins with the settlement of the indigenous population in Quebec. They arrived in America about 15,000 years ago. You can learn more about them by visiting the wonderful exhibits devoted to them at the Musée de la civilisation in the lower town in Quebec City. There are also First Nation tours you can take to learn more about their culture.



Below are some indigenous artifacts dating back around 12,000 years found at the archaeological site called Cliche-Rancourt.



### The First Attempt to Colonize Quebec is in 1541



In 1541 the first French Colony was set up in Quebec by Cartier and Roberval. The site of this colony was first discovered in 2005. You can see some of the over 6,000 artifacts found there at the Musée de l'Amérique in Quebec City. Before entering the museum you walk through a beautiful chapel.



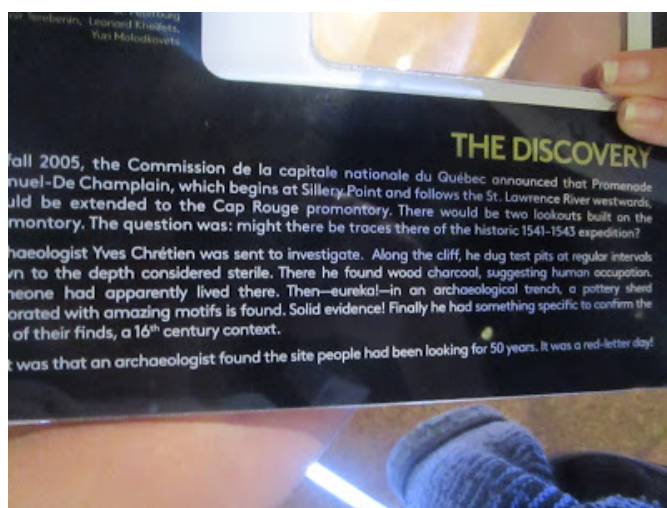
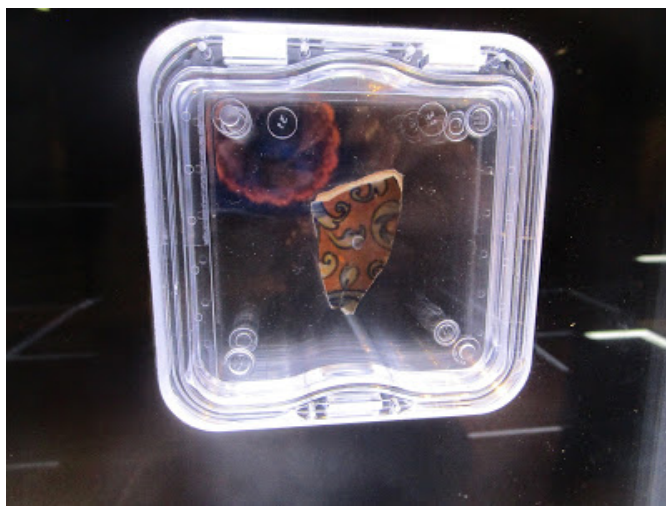


Inside Musée de l'Amérique francophone there are a number of artifacts unearthed at the Cartier and Roberval site.

"From Wikipedia: Charlesbourg-Royal ( 1541 - 1542 ), established near present-day **Quebec City** , was the first French settlement in **North America** .

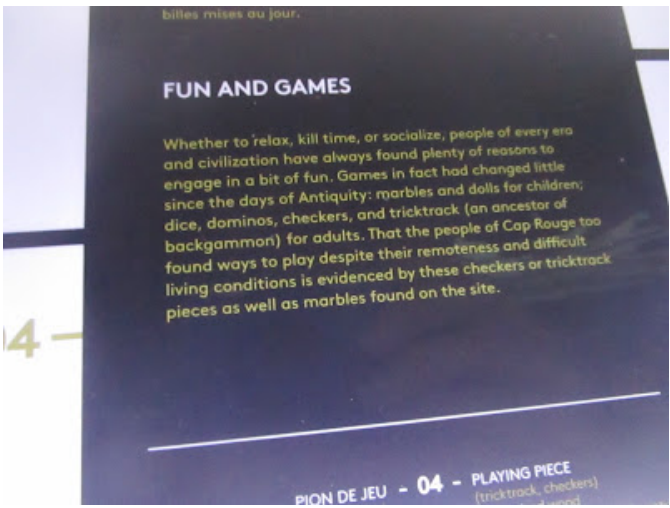
This community of 400 inhabitants survived its first winter despite the severe cold weather and the attacks of the **Iroquoians** of **Stadacona** and other villages. However, the establishment was abandoned in June 1542 ."

Here are a few of the artifacts.





PION DE JEU  
PLAYING PIECE 04 -



FUN AND GAMES

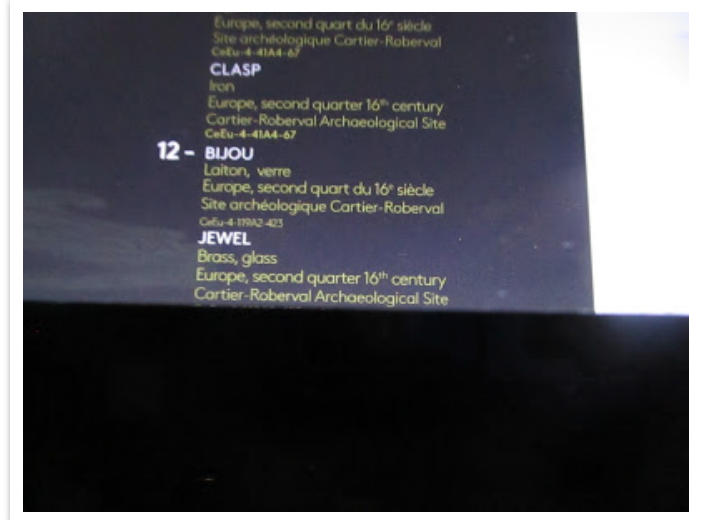
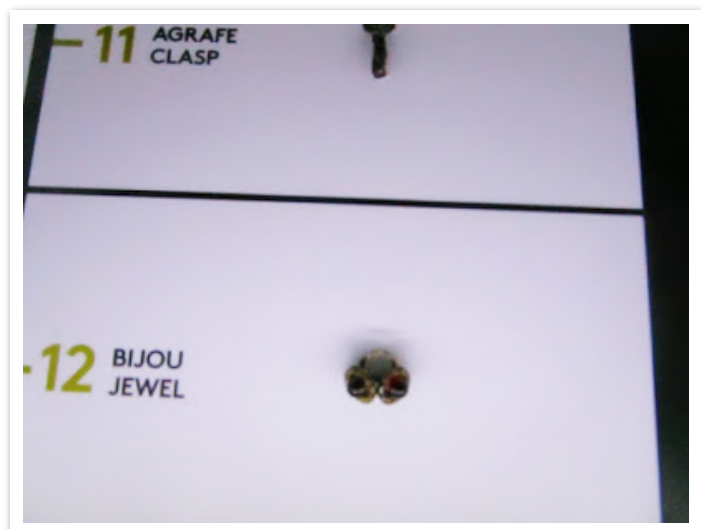
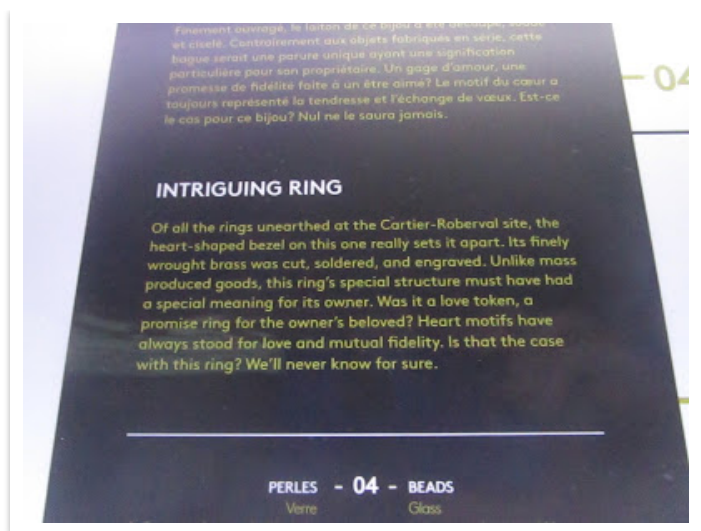
Whether to relax, kill time, or socialize, people of every era and civilization have always found plenty of reasons to engage in a bit of fun. Games in fact had changed little since the days of Antiquity: marbles and dolls for children; dice, dominos, checkers, and tricktrack (an ancestor of backgammon) for adults. That the people of Cap Rouge too found ways to play despite their remoteness and difficult living conditions is evidenced by these checkers or tricktrack pieces as well as marbles found on the site.

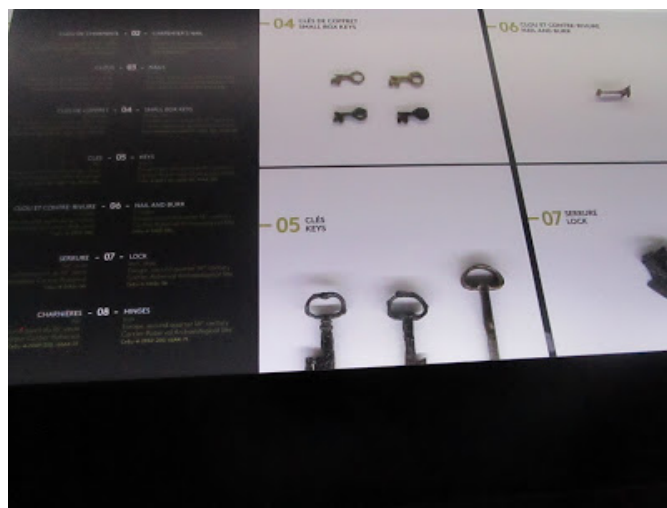
PION DE JEU - 04 - PLAYING PIECE  
(tricktrack, checkers)



05 BOUTON  
BUTTON

06 BAGUE  
RING





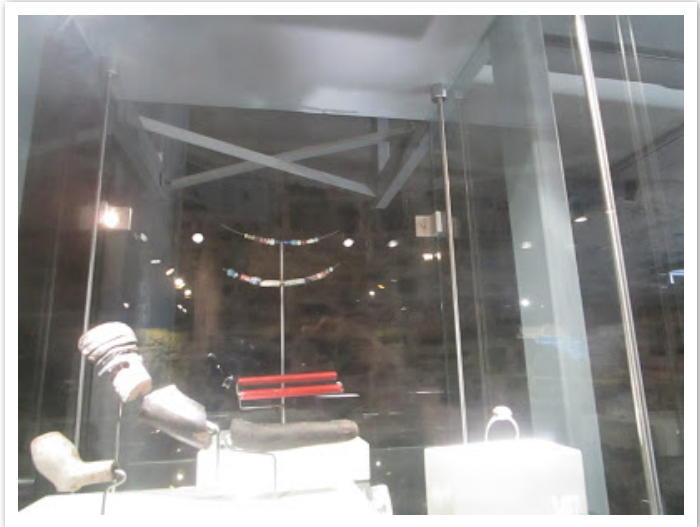
### Samuel de Champlain Colony 1608



After the failed attempt to colonize Quebec in the 1500's it took another 60 years for Champlain's successful colony to be established. Quebec was officially founded on 3 July 1608 by the explorer Samuel de Champlain. It was built on the Iroquois settlement of Stadacona. Artifacts from this era can be found at the Saint-Louis Forts and Chateaux archaeological site which is under the Dufferin Terrace.











### The Catholic Religious Orders Enter Quebec

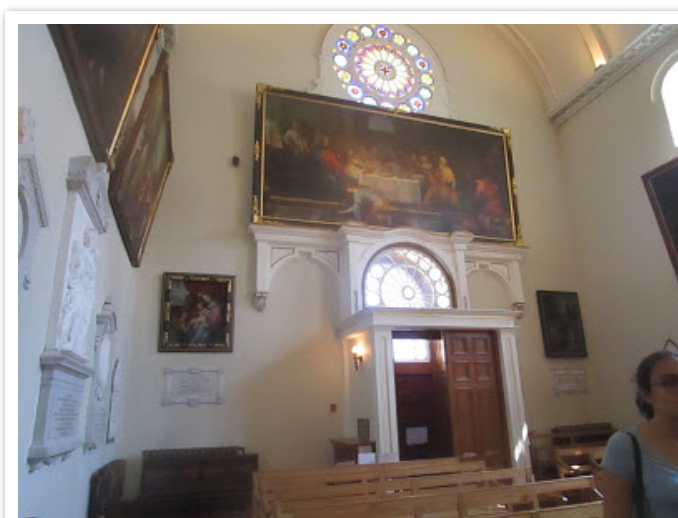
"In 1665, there were 550 people in 70 houses living in the city. One-quarter of the people were members of religious orders: secular priests, Jesuits, Ursulines nuns and the order running the local hospital, Hotel-Dieu." Wikipedia

The Ursulines' Monastery still stands in the Upper Town of old Quebec. I highly recommend touring the church and museum, both are very interesting.





The wooden altar in the Ursuline church was created by Pierre-Noel Levasseur between 1736 and 1739. It was gilded by the sisters.

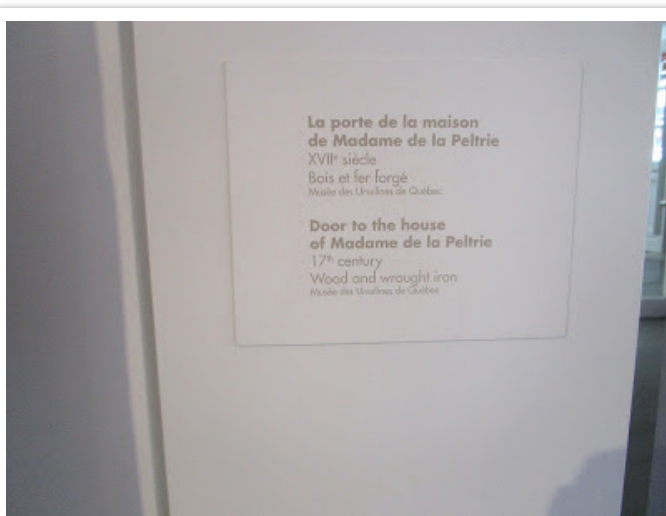
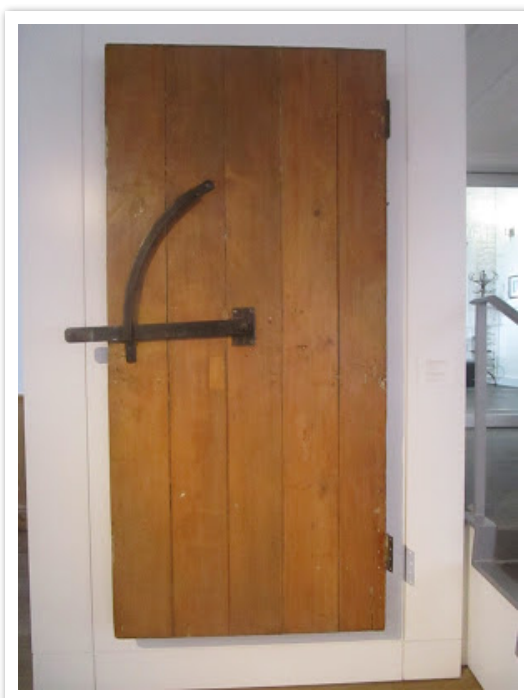
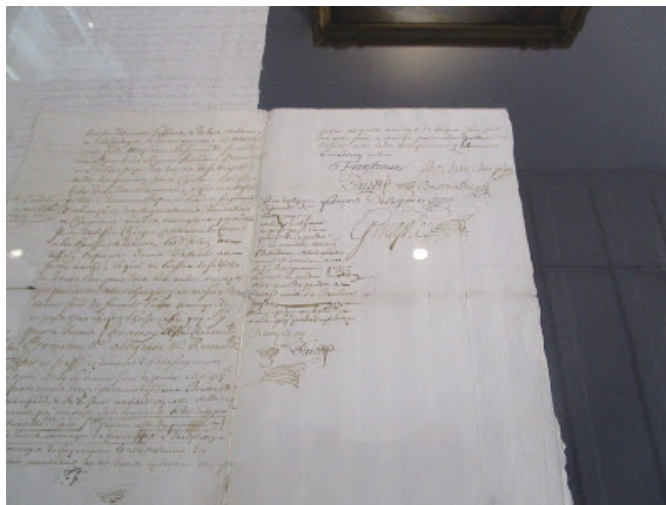




Marie Incarnation was leader of this convent and is now a Saint entombed at the Church.

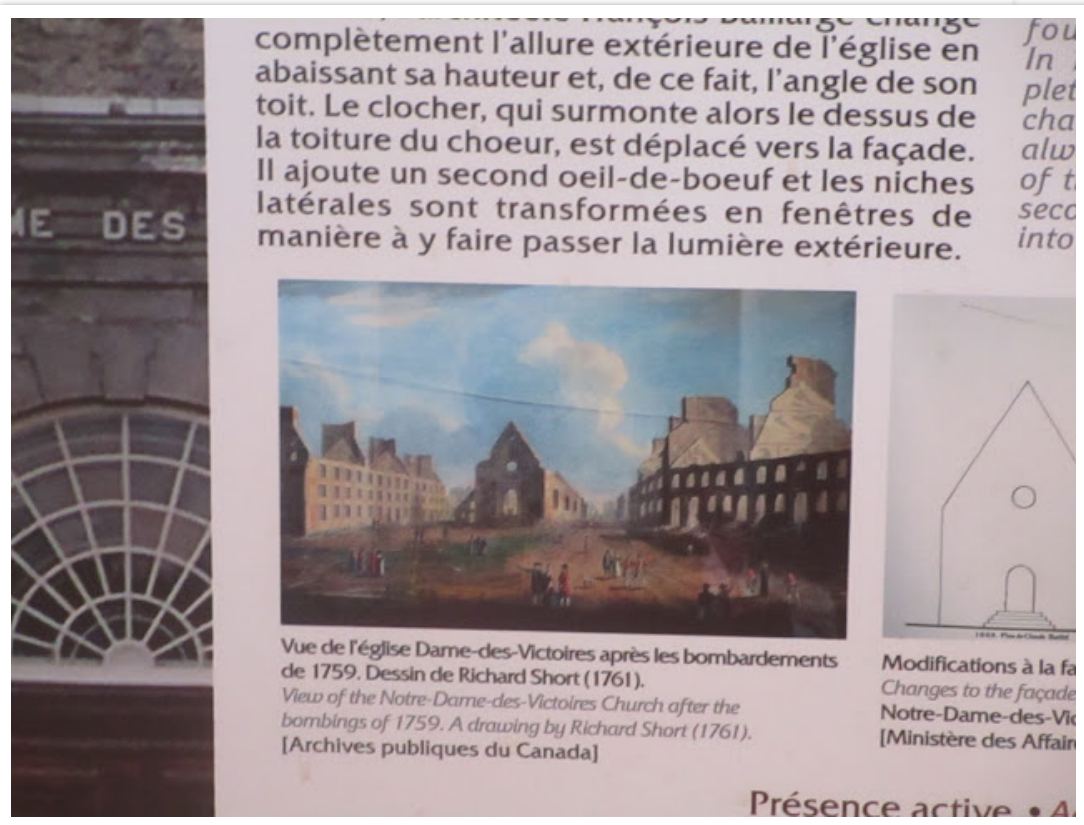






## 17th Century Quebec City

There are still structures in Quebec dating from the 17th Century, although many were destroyed or damaged after the British bombardment. An example of the damage caused by the attack can be seen in a drawing for Notre Dame des Victoires, a church originally constructed in 1688. The only thing remaining of this church after the attack was just the shell of the exterior.



If was later reconstructed.





The church is now surrounded by some 18th Century structures.







There is a Filles Du Roy plaque near Place Royale.



A Fille Du Roy Trunk can be seen in the Museum of Civilization.



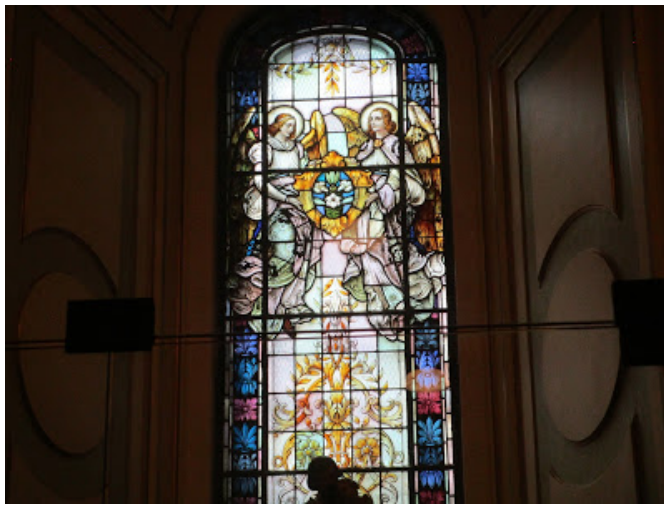
The oldest house still standing is in the Upper Town of Quebec and is now a restaurant.

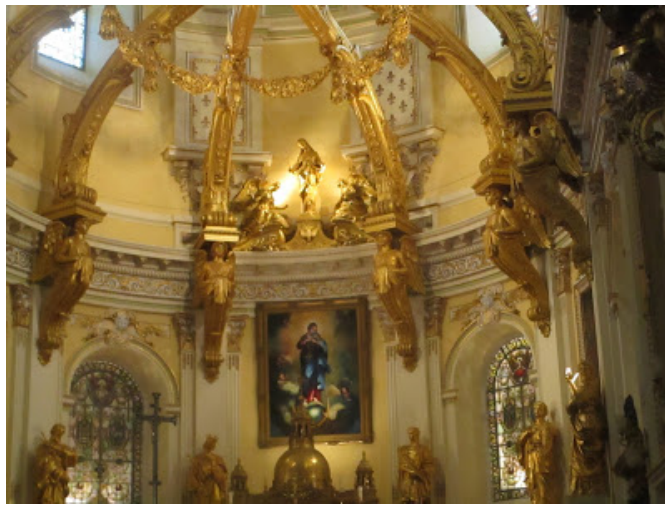




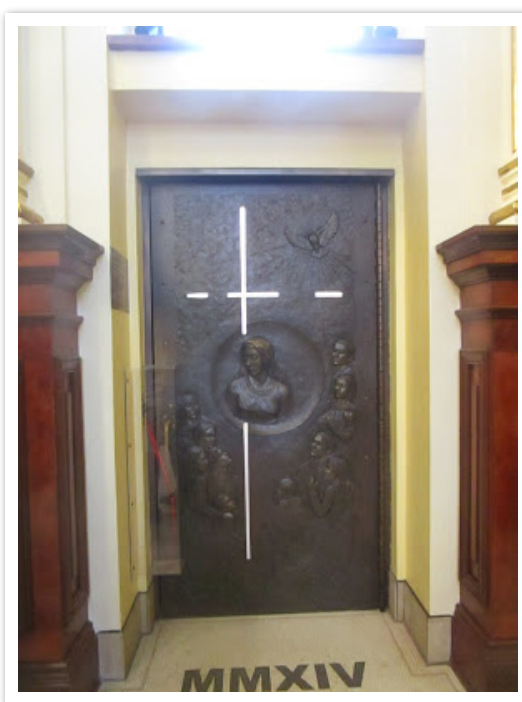


Cathedral-Basilica of Notre-Dame de Québec has been rebuilt many times due to fire. First constructed in 1647, and later rebuilt in the 18th Century, it was gutted when the KKK set fire to it in 1922.





Holy door below. Can only be opened by order of the Pope.







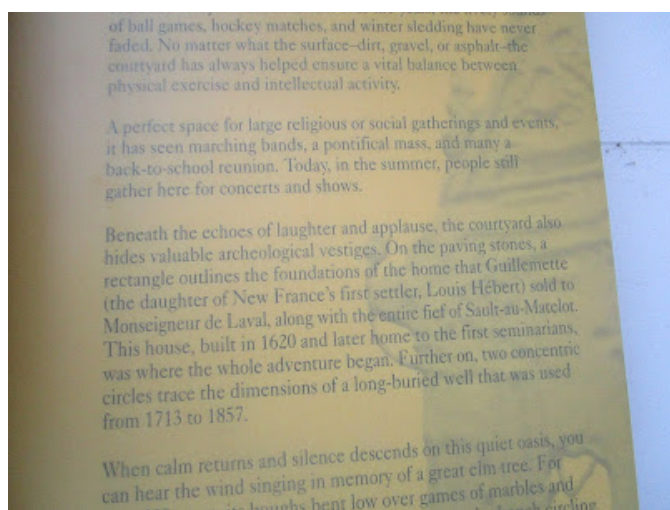
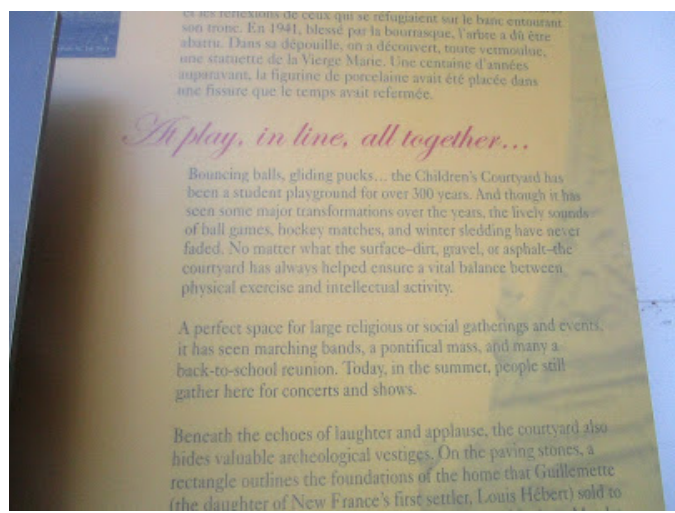
The Seminaire d' Quebec/Laval University contains beautiful architecture some of which dates back to 1663.











The Augustine Monastery below is now a hotel and spa (I would like to stay there next time).

The Augustinian Sisters arrived in New France in 1639 with the mission to care for the sick.



Mlle. Josephine Malouin	73	Mlle. Cécile Talbot	43	Mlle. Eugénie Rousseau	43
Emilie Larose	74	Deanne Rousseau	44	Eugénie Sanders	44
Georgiana Robitaille	75	Reuben H. Laurent	45	Henriette Delisle	45
Marie Lucie	76	Eugénie H. Laurent	46	Olivia Couture	46
Odette Wagueau	77	Euphémie H. Laurent	47	Odette Lucie	47
Esther Leclerc	78	Thérèse Angers	48	Virginie Clavel	48
Elise Rousseau	79	Josephine Angers	49	Catherine H. Berre	49
Mary Hardy	80	Crépuscule Richer	50	Marie Martineau	50
Emma Biquinaud	81	Georgiana Baré	51	Elise Larue	51
Dolphine Wery	82	Helena Nesbitt	52	Marie Mercier	52
Clotilde Baré	83	Victoria Côté	53	Stéphane Martineau	53
Louise Verine	84	Mathilde Laberge	54	Louise Gagnon	54
Mary Comair	85	Orphée Bédard	55	Elise Babin	55
M. Louise Leonard	86	M. Louise Angers	56	Marie Julien	56
Elisa Leonard	87	Elise de Saguenay	57	Caroline Julien	57
Catherine Hyman	88	Thérèse Angers	58	Jane Lachance	58
Elise Fancher	89	Helene Angers	59	Philomène Guellet	59
Clara Ducloux	90	Dolphine Wagueau	60	Thérèse Lacombe	60
Clara Ducloux	91	Henriette Couture	61	Georgiana Biquinaud	61
Marie Belleau	92	Léona Rousseau	62	Josephine Coutu	62
Mathilde Angers	93	Catherine Côté	63	Elise Wagueau	63
Clara Lacombe	94	Lucie Mercier	64	Marie Plamondon	64

Les noms des autres tableaux correspondent à ceux-ci.

pensionnaires des vieillards, des malades chroniques, des infirmes, des prostituées, des personnes souffrant de troubles psychologiques et des invalides, en plus des blessés en temps de guerre.

## A SPECIAL HOSPITAL MISSION

To stem the begging and wandering issues, the first Hôpital général appears in France. These establishments aim to combat wandering and instill a taste for work. They are thought of as places of confinement where old men, wanderers, invalids, highwaymen, prostitutes and insane persons are mixed, without distinction between the poor and the criminals.

The Bishop of Saint-Vallier's vision, who founded the Hôpital général de Québec in 1692, differs. The bishop sets up a more humane, less repressive institution. Run by the Augustinian sisters from 1693, the Hôpital général de Québec is a long-term care center. It stands out from the Hôtel-Dieu.

Over the years, the Augustinian sisters have welcomed as boarders the elderly, chronically ill, disabled, prostitutes, people suffering from psychological disorders and invalids, in addition to the wounded in time of war.

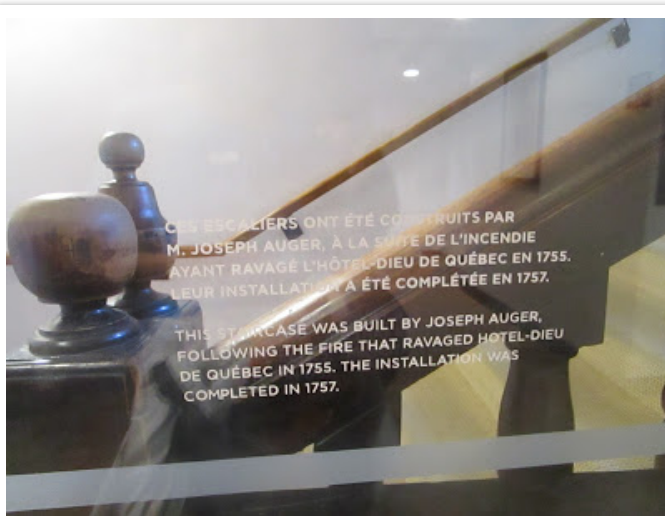






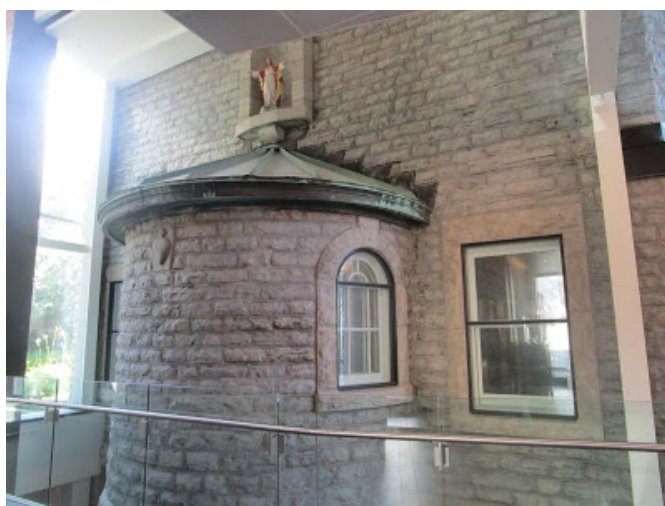
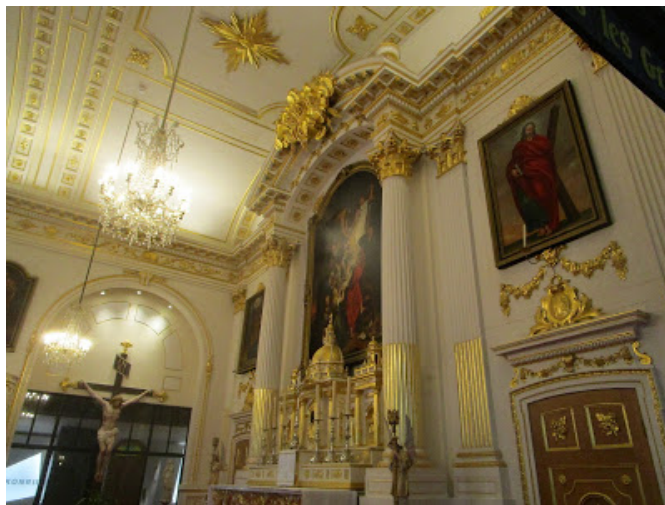


These stairs completed in 1757 by Joseph Auger are wonderful! I loved walking on the creaky out of kilter









### **A Side Trip to the mid 17th Century area of my Ancestors**

My personal family history moves from the city of Quebec to Chateau Richer, Ste. Anne-de-Beaupre, and the Ile d' Orleans around the mid 17th Century as farmers migrate to land suitable farming.

Riding along the Beupre coast you can still see the old seigneurial strips of land which were granted to farmers/Habitants.









A monument to early settler Robert Pare is partially covered with vines.







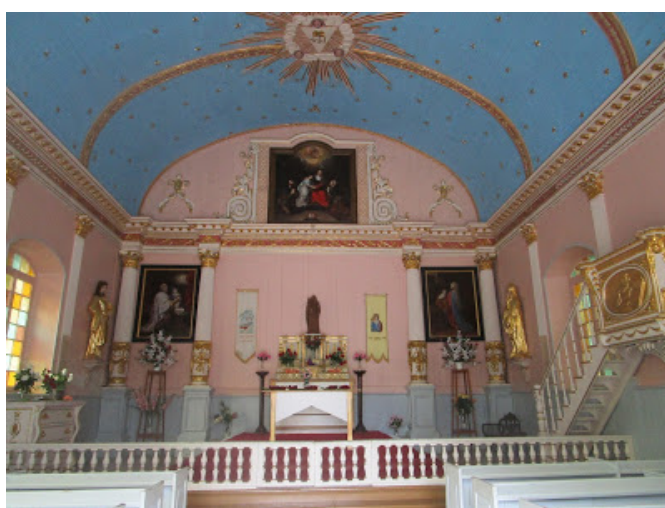
The Memorial Chapel at Ste. Anne-de-Beaupre is a memorial to the church which stood there between 1676 and 1876. It also memorializes our pioneer ancestors with plaques. Standing inside this church was a very moving experience.













Ste. Anne-de-Beaupre is now better known for its Basilica, a place where healing miracles are said to have happened. It is a magnificent structure.









My Houde Houle ancestors were early settlers of Ile d' Orleans which is now a tourist destination famous for its scenic views, gourmet food, and wine. 85% of the of earliest homes on the Island were destroyed during the British invasion of Quebec in 1759.

From the Louis Houde and Madeleine Boucher **Family association**: "In 1658, the couple moved to Sainte-Famille on the land of four acres front, facing the river and will remain there for nearly a quarter of a century. It's in Sainte-Famille where 13 of the 14 children of Louis and Madeleine are born."

Maison de nos Aïeux is a family history center on the Ile d' Orleans. It's next to the Ste. Famille Church, and is housed in the old rectory. It contains books, computers, and a scale model of the island. It costs \$5.00 to visit but it's well worth it.

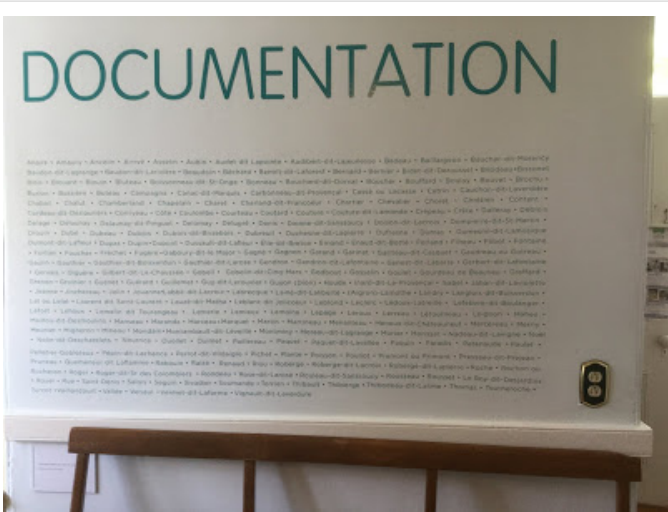






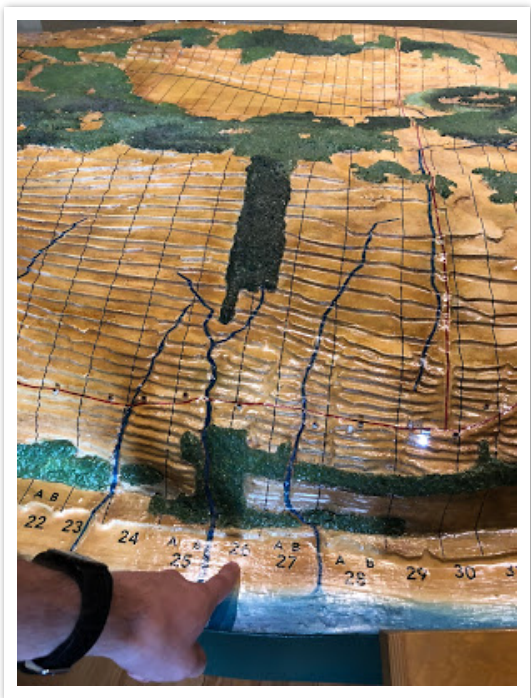








The Houdes land was located on section 26.



Cordeau-dit-Deslauriers • Corriveau • Côté  
 Delage • Delaunay • Delaunay-dit-Pinguet  
 Drouin • Dubé • Dubeau • Dubois • D  
 Dumont-dit-Lafleur • Dupas • Dupin • Dup  
 • Fortier • Foucher • Fréchet • Fugère • G  
 Gaulin • Gauthier • Gauthier-dit-Boisverd  
 • Gervais • Giguère • Gilbert-dit-La-Chau  
 Grenon • Groinier • Guenet • Guérard • Gu  
 • Jeanne • Jinchereau • Jolin • Jouanne • La  
 Lat ou Lelat • Laurent dit Saint-Laurent •  
 Lefort • Lehoux • Lemelin dit Tourange  
 Maillou-dit-Desmoulins • Manseau • Maran  
 Meunier • Mignerou • Mineau • Mondain • M  
 • Nourrice • Oue





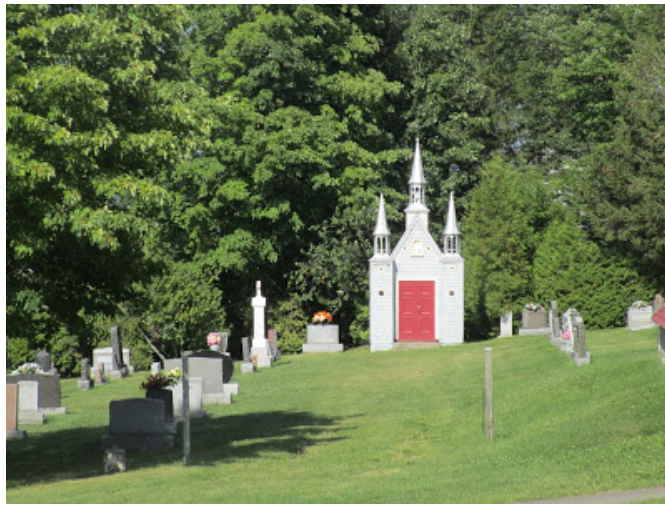


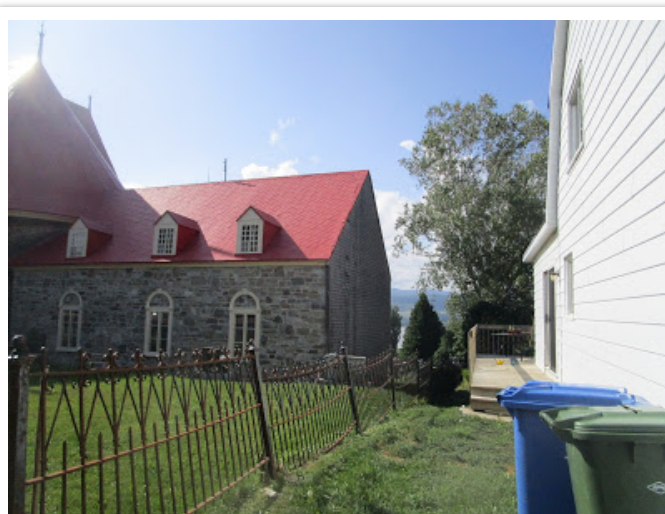
'Sainte-Famille is the oldest parish on Île d'Orléans. Its church, built in 1743 and consecrated in 1749, is one of the last dating from the French regime. Its façade, adorned with five niches representing the Holy Family, has three steeples. The numerous artists and craftsmen who contributed to its interior design include the Noël brothers and Antoine Levasseur, who sculpted the main altar, and François Baillargé, who painted some of the artwork." From the ["Quebec Original" website](#).















St-Pierre Church. This Church was built between 1716 and 1718.























### **Back to Quebec to Continue Our Tour**

#### **Learning a little about our Trading Ancestors**

I had an ancestor who was an Indian Trader so the exhibit at the Museum of Civilization was interesting to me. The Natives would trade furs for such items as guns and copper pots.



Looks like we still have old traders haunting the place today.



Below is wampum from a belt. Wampum was used as money by the Natives.





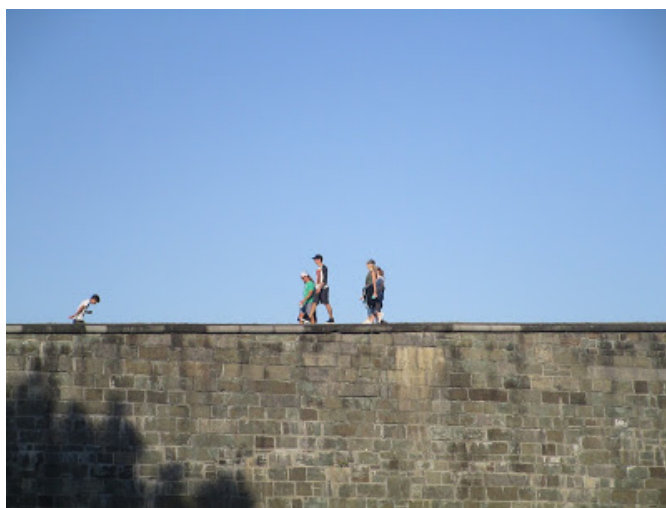
### The Battles For Quebec

The battle of the Plains of Abraham or the Battle of Quebec in 1759 was a turning point in the Seven Years War between Britain and France. This battle was fought on land that once belong to one of my ancestors named Abraham Martin. The British General Wolfe was badly injured on this field and died of his wounds.

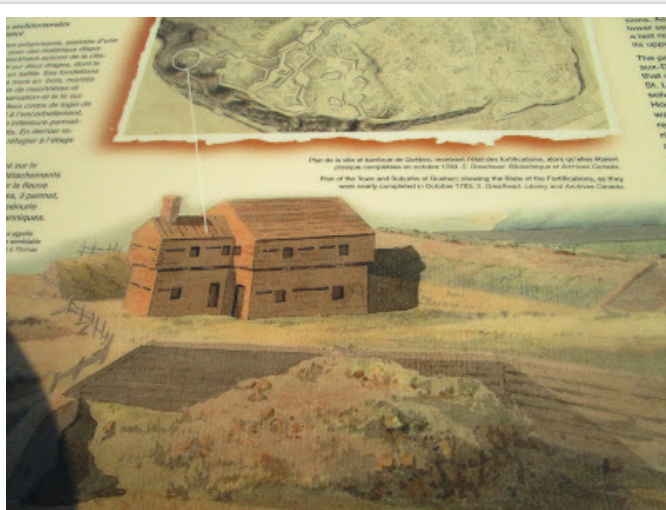








Foundations of the blockhouse used to thwart the attack on the city by Benedict Arnold during the American Revolutionary War.



The Fort Museum in Quebec City is the best way to learn more about the battles for Quebec.



### 18th Century Quebec

After Britain took possession and the war ended rebuilding began in Quebec City where we find many 18th Century structures.









































The Citadel contains military structures dating back to 1693. It was expanded by the British after their take over. You can now tour the Citadel and watch the daily changing of the guard at 10 am.





### 19th Century Quebec

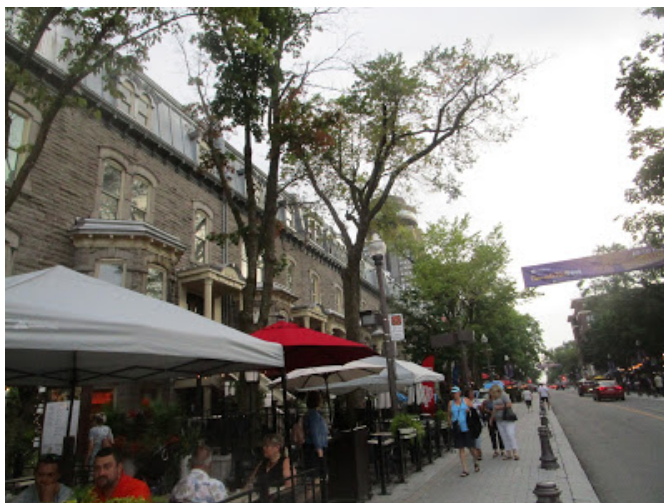
After the British takeover of Quebec we begin to see Anglo style architecture in Quebec City. Yellow and orangish colored bricks used as ballast on ships from Ireland and Scotland were now being used to build structure.



An Anglican Church "Cathedral of the Holy Trinity" was built in Quebec between 1800 and 1804.







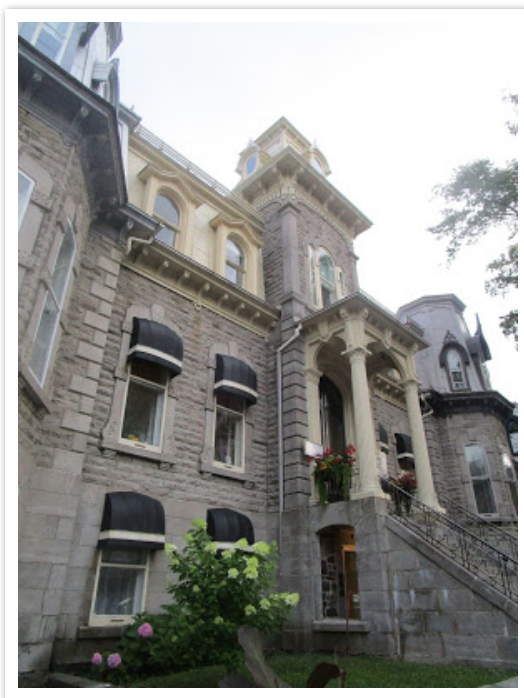
















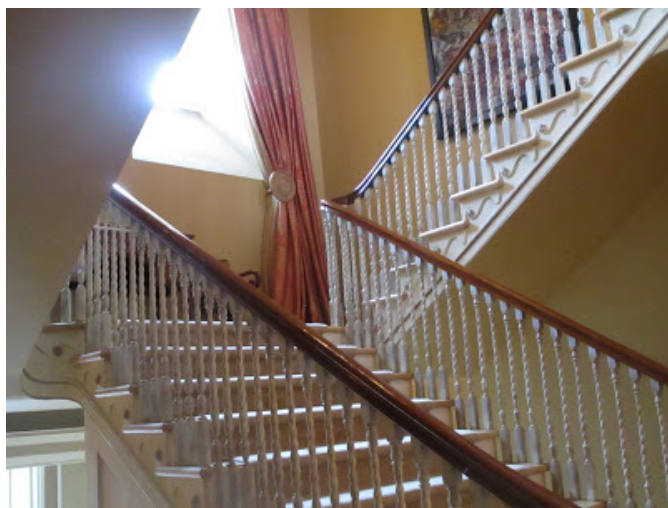


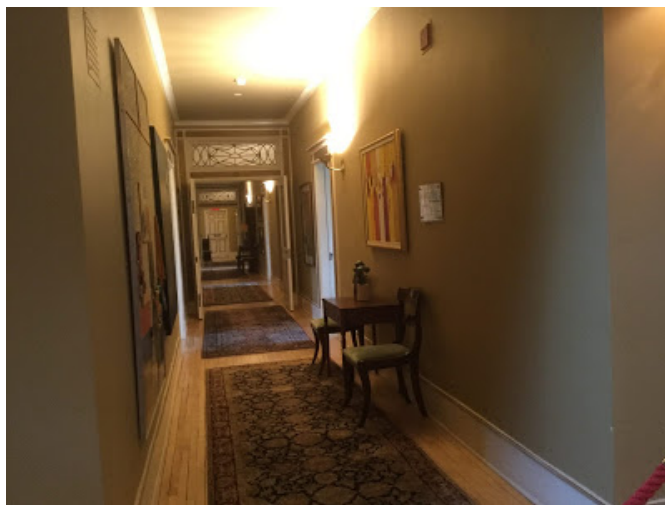
This faux Castle fooled me. I thought it was much older than its 1886 date of construction.





The Governors house.









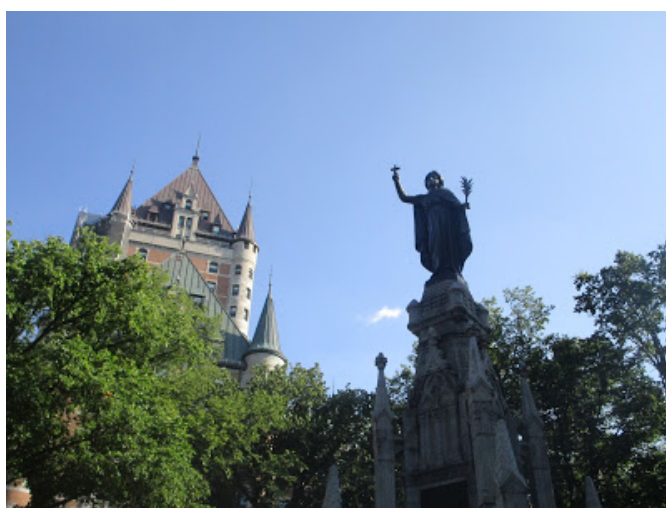




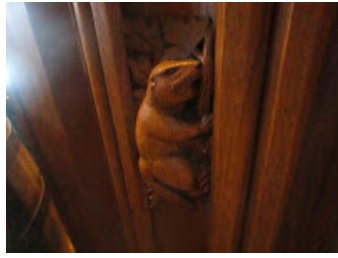


"The Château Frontenac is one of **Canada's grand railway hotels** built by the **Canadian Pacific Railway**. The **Châteauesque** architectural style used throughout the hotel would later serve as a template for other Canadian grand railway hotels erected in the late-19th to early-20th century.

From Wikipedia "Château Frontenac." Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia, 17 Aug. 2019. Web. 22 Aug. 2019.







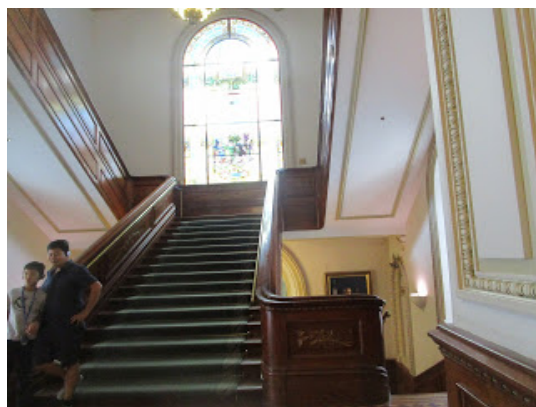
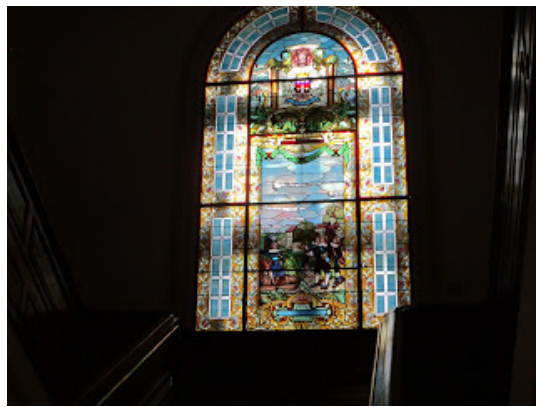
The Quebec Parliament building was designed by Eugene-Etienne Tache. It was built between 1877 and 1886. It's really beautiful inside and out.

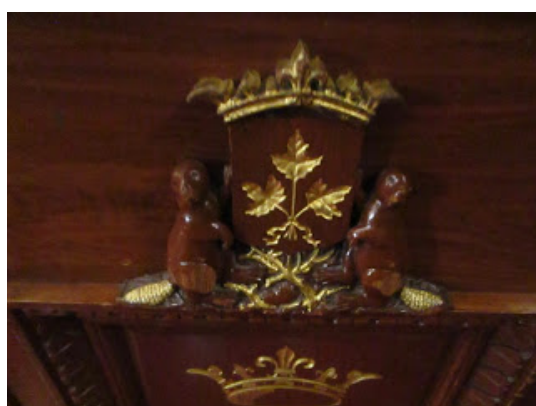
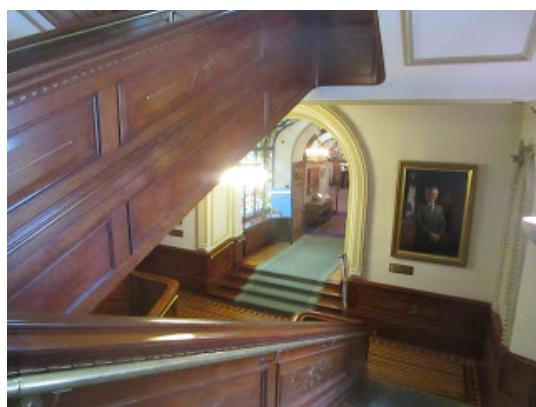
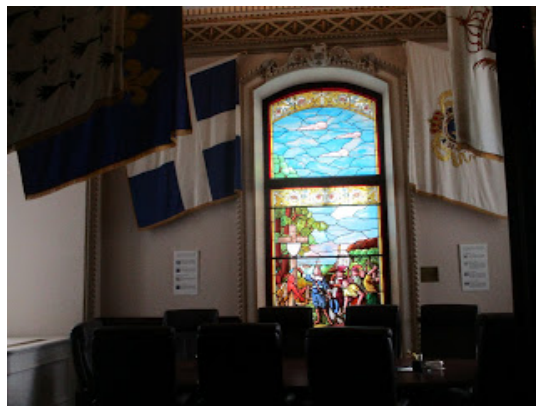


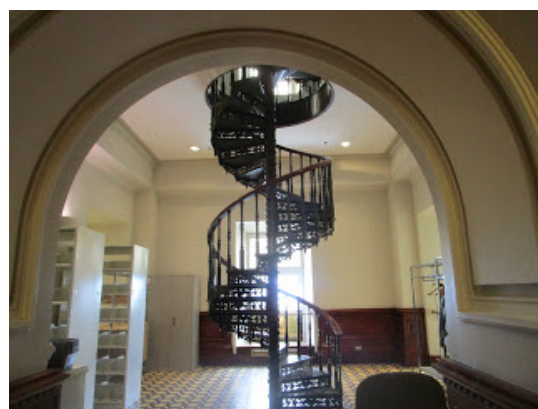














A new addition to the building was added recently and opened in March of 2019.





## The French Canadians Have Not Been Replaced

We still find our French Canadian cousins dominating Quebec City and its environs. Our family names can be found on local businesses.



It was a wonderful trip! I can't wait to return!









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Posted by [Annette](#) at [12:46 PM](#)    [6 comments:](#)    

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

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[My Pedigree Charts](#)
[Research Goals](#)

Tuesday, September 10, 2019

## The Ursulines In Quebec & Their Mission to Educate Girls



The church played a huge role in early Quebec, as it did in France itself. In France male members of the clergy belonged to the governing body called the Estates General. Because of the wealth of the church in France they formed what was the 1st of the 3 estates. The general public formed the 3rd.

The wealth of the church in France allowed them to extend their mission of converting the world to the Catholic faith to America. There was a rivalry during the Protestant Reformation for converts resulting in the Counter Reformation. The Jesuits were the first of the religious orders to arrive in New France with the purpose of converting the Native population.

The clergy were literate, unlike many of the ordinary citizens of Quebec. The clergy kept the records we now use to trace our families, which was a great service. In places like the early American South few, if any, records were kept, and it's nearly impossible to trace anyone beyond the late 18th Century.

I found visiting what we would call in the states convents in Quebec City to be fascinating. A Great-Great Aunt was a Nun, and she worked in the Catholic girls boarding schools in Chicago, Illinois. The Ursuline Monastery/Convent Museum was quite interesting for me for



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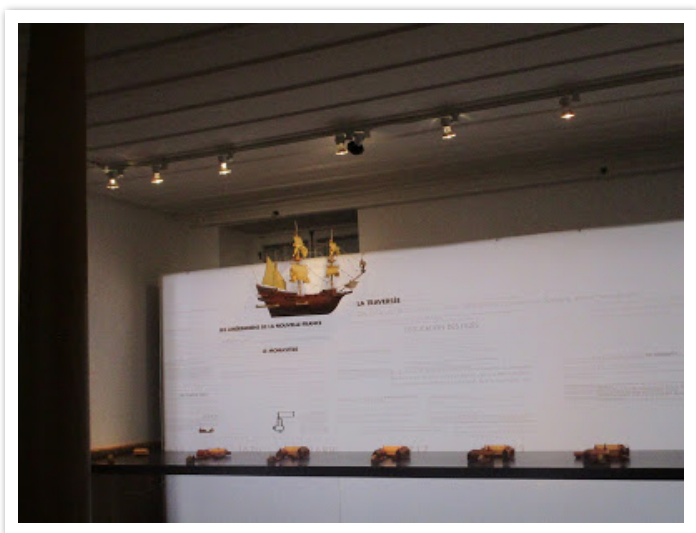


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that reason. My father talked about his Great-Aunt Sr. Mary Kathleen frequently. He would visit with her when his family lived in Chicago. He sent Rose Parade programs to her when the family moved to California. She would share them with the girls at the school, which made her very popular.

## A Virtual Tour of the Ursuline Museum in Quebec City



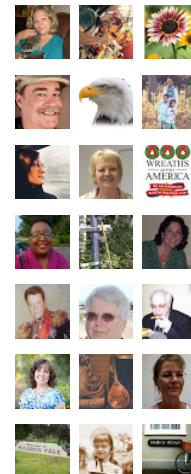
### Arrival in New France

The Ursulines were founded in New France when Marie L'Incarnation arrived from France in 1639, with Marie-Madeleine de Chauvigny de la Peltre. Peltre financially supported the group. Marie L'Incarnation, because she was a woman, was discouraged from coming to the New World, and had to plead for financial assistance to fund her voyage to America. As a leader of the Ursulines in the New World she established the first girls school in Quebec. The school was designed to educate both French girls and the indigenous population in the Christian faith. Filles du Roi were also sometimes housed with the Ursulines when they arrived.

Both Marie de L'Incarnation and Marie-Madeleine de Chauvigny de la Peltre were widows. Marie de L'Incarnation left a son in the care of family in order to devote her life to the church. Her son also joined a monastic order when he grew up, and the letters they exchanged form an important source of information about life in New France.

A door from the house of Marie-Madeleine de Chauvigny de la Peltre can be seen in the Ursuline Museum.

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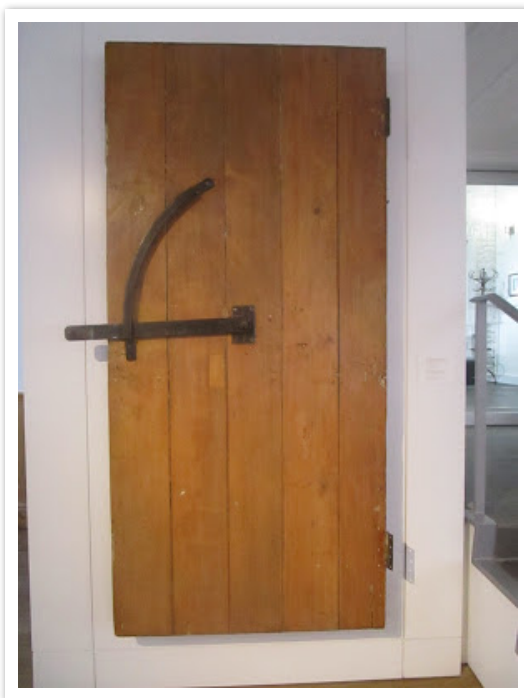
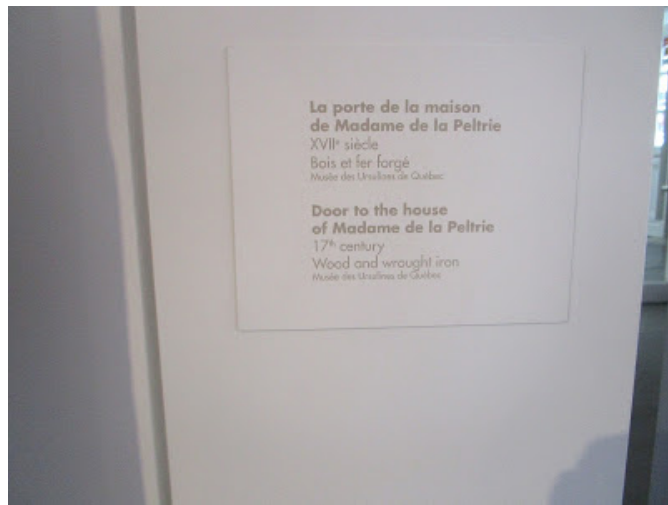
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► **January** (1)

► **2019** (16)

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► **2017** (31)



These Nuns, who were cloistered in their convent, were known for producing lace work, and other fine needle work such as vestments for the church. Using shiny gold and silver thread, and other vibrant colors, they produced masterpieces in the form of textiles. The Native American and French students of the Ursuline school were taught the art of fine needle work by the sisters. Marie de L'Incarnation's father was a silk merchant which probably added to her knowledge of the art of working with textiles.

- [2016](#) (24)
- [2015](#) (30)
- [2014](#) (53)
- [2013](#) (59)
- [2012](#) (76)
- [2011](#) (94)

## About Me



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## Feedjit







### Becoming an Ursuline Nun

The Ursulines provided important services for Quebec with their teaching and needle work. The order soon expanded to places like Trois-Rivieres and beyond. The expansion created a need for more women to join the order. It was always difficult to lure people to come to Quebec where the winters are harsh, and there was a threat of Indian attack. They had to recruit from the local population. The French Canadians were encouraged to marry very young and have large families to increase the population so that France could hold on to the land. These large Catholic families often were encouraged to send one of their children to join a religious order.

The process of joining the Ursulines as a Nun is covered in a special exhibit room in the museum. Your first step, of course, would be to pack up your worldly items in a trunk to be brought to the monastery where it would be stored in the attic.



Before officially joining the order a woman must serve a trial period as a novice.

Once the candidate/postulate for admission to the order is accepted a ceremony of taking the veil is performed. At this ceremony the postulate is officially recognized to "be dead to the world, to your parents, to your friends and to yourself." As the display at the Ursuline museum states, "The Vestition Ceremony marked the postulates death to the world, as she gave up her secular dress to adopt the religious habit. This symbolic death was followed by an equally symbolic rebirth." The novices used to wear wedding dresses to symbolize their marriage to the church.



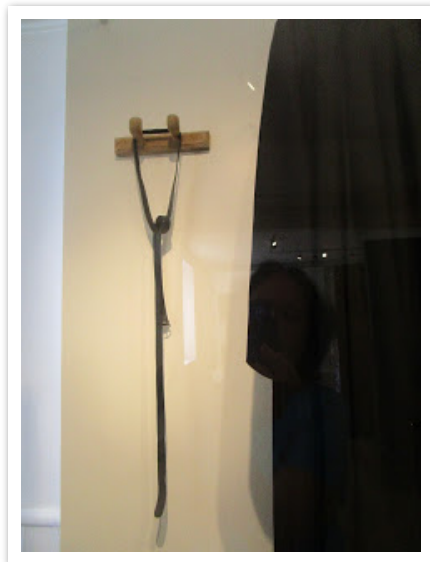
During the ceremony the postulate would change into a black habit symbolizing her death to

the world.



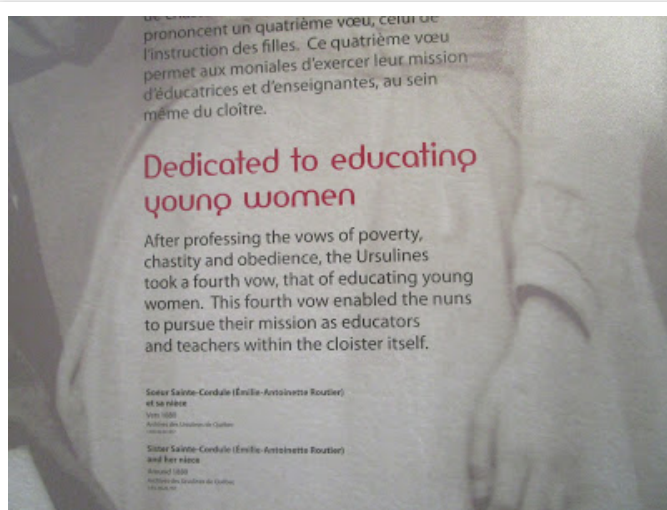
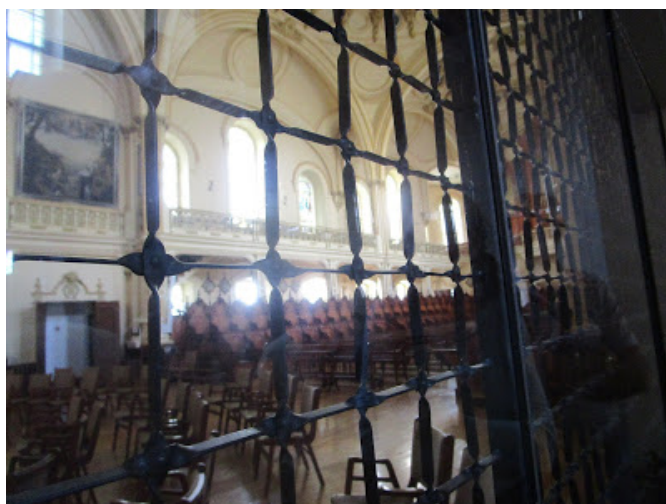
Once she is dead to the world she is stripped of her family name, another symbol of her secular death, and given a new name chosen by the Mother Superior. My great-great Aunt was given the name Mary Kathleen.

A belt was wrapped around the postulates to symbolize that they were now under the authority of the hierarchy of the church.



At this point the postulate is a novice. After serving her novitiate she can decide to take her final vows.

After you were admitted you lived behind a barred grill in the Monastery/Convent. The Nuns had their own chapel for services barred off from the rest of the worshipers.



## The Ursuline School

The original mission of the Ursuline girls school was to convert the indigenous people to Catholicism. It was hoped that these girls would return to their villages and convert more of their people, and raise their children as Catholics. Cultural differences created a barrier when it came to trying to integrate the indigenous population into French culture. The girls were often homesick and would jump the fence and rejoin their families.

The Nuns were involved in continuing their own education also. They were required in their *Constitutions* to learn Native American languages to better communicate with the girls. Once the British took over governance of the colony they also learned English.

The school evolved over time and became a boarding school for the French Canadian, and later the Irish, and English population.

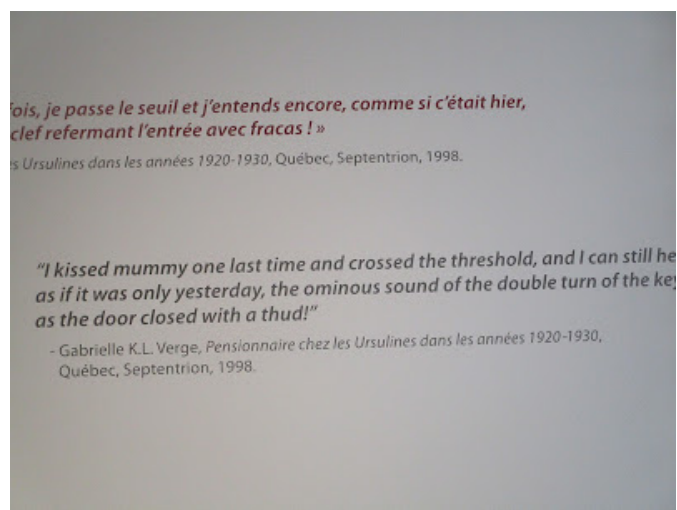
Like the Nuns the first step in entering boarding school would be packing your trunk with your belongings. Some of the girls being very young would pack a doll to bring with them.



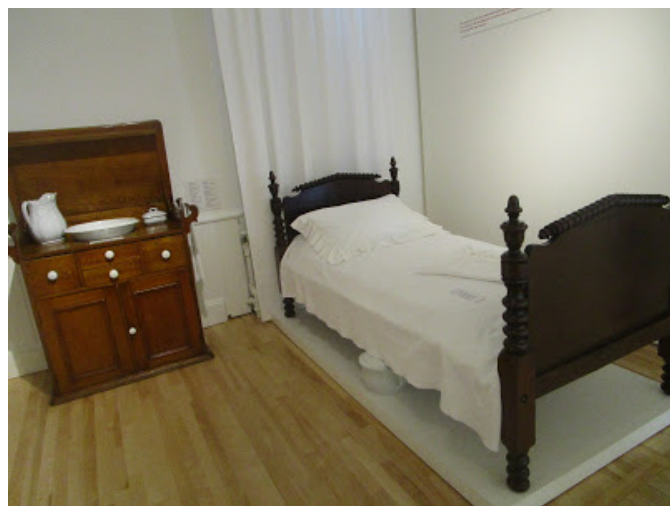
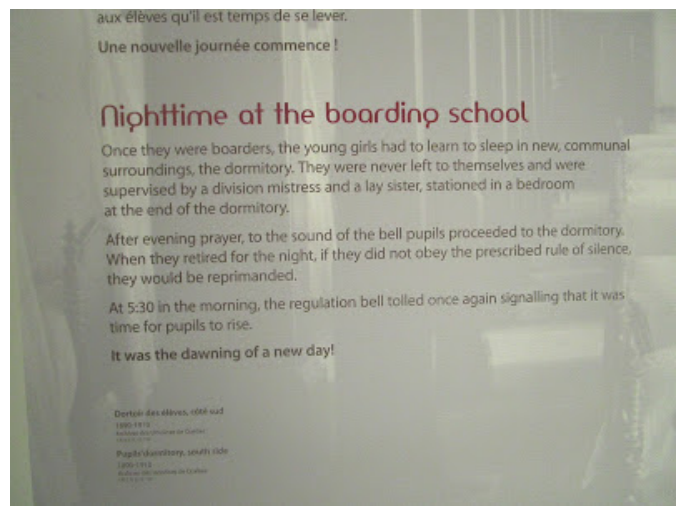


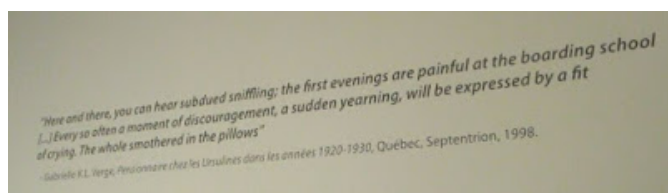
The girls would be dropped off at school and they would be cloistered behind grill bars like the Nuns. Parents could only visit students infrequently, with permission.





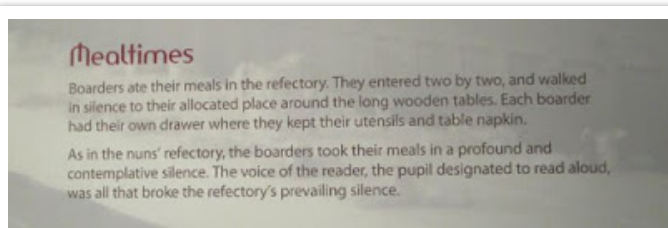
Oral histories of former boarding schools students can be heard using headphones in the museum. One former student said she would cry herself to sleep when she was homesick.





The Nuns were kept busy caring for all the needs of the girls. Nuns cooked the meals, educated, and nursed the girls when they were sick. They, of course, provided them with a Catholic religious education.

Each girl had a place at the meal tables. They kept their plates, cups, and eating utensils in drawers that were built into the tables.



The girls also viewed some members of the staff as family substitutes, which they called aunts or Matantes in French.

### The "Matantes"

Some of the lay sisters closely tended to the smooth running of the boarding school. They prepared the meals and maintained the various common areas used by the boarders such as the refectories, dormitories and classrooms.

Nuns associated with comfort and consoling, the "matantes" (meaning aunts) occupied a special place in the hearts of the young girls.

du vieux monastère...  
leurs élèves la mémoire des fondatrices et le souvenir de leurs événements.  
Être pensionnaire chez les Ursulines, c'est adopter une culture, un esprit, des traditions, des savoirs et des savoir-faire séculaires. Élevée en vase clos, la fillette est d'autant plus réceptive à l'enseignement transmis par les religieuses.

### In the shadow of the cloister

*"A convent is a small town within a larger city, a distinct society that leaves aside society at large and, despite all the upheavals experienced in the outside world, continues to function with clockwork precision"*

- Pierre-Joseph-Olivier Chauveau, Charles Guérin. *Roman de mœurs canadiennes*, 1853.

The young ladies of the Ursulines are heirs to all those who have walked the corridors of the Old Monastery since the seventeenth century. The nuns perpetuated among their pupils the memory of its foundresses and of their precursors.

Being a boarder at the Ursuline convent meant adopting a culture, spirit, traditions, knowledge and know-how that were centuries old. Raised behind closed doors, young girls were all the more receptive to the teachings of the nuns.

à leurs destinataires.

### Study

Mornings and evenings, a period was set aside for pupils to learn their lessons and do their homework. As with all other activities at the boarding school, study periods were rigorously supervised by the mistresses. Pupils studied individually and in silence, each division in its designated room.

### Letters

In addition to lessons and homework, the young ladies took advantage of study time to write home to their family. They were required to write to their parents every two months, an exercise aimed at training the pupils in the art of letter writing. It was the mistresses who provided the topic of the letter and they also corrected the draft copy, pointing out their mistakes to the students. Once completed, all letters were submitted to the Mistress-General for her approval before being sent to their addressees.

Table d'étude des Pensionnaires  
1855  
Établissement des Ursulines de Québec  
Archives de l'Église  
Study room  
1855  
Établissement des Ursulines de Québec  
Archives de l'Église





There were many changes in the curriculum as times changed. In the 18th Century the arts were stressed as a way of refining the girls for a good marriage. They learned needlework, drawing and painting. They would also learn to play instruments and sing.

Below is a description of a course of study for the girls at this school. The girls received a well rounded education which included education in the arts and sciences. There is also a list of the supplies girls' parents needed to equip their daughters with. Oddly the school didn't furnish eating utensils or table napkins? I guess you could bring your own bedroom furniture, or pay to rent the school furniture

Occupying one of the most elevated and salubrious locations in the City, the C. . . . enjoys, at the same time, the fine prospect of the surrounding country. The play-grounds, gardens, &c., offer ample means for exercise and amusement.

**COURSE OF STUDIES (French and English.)**

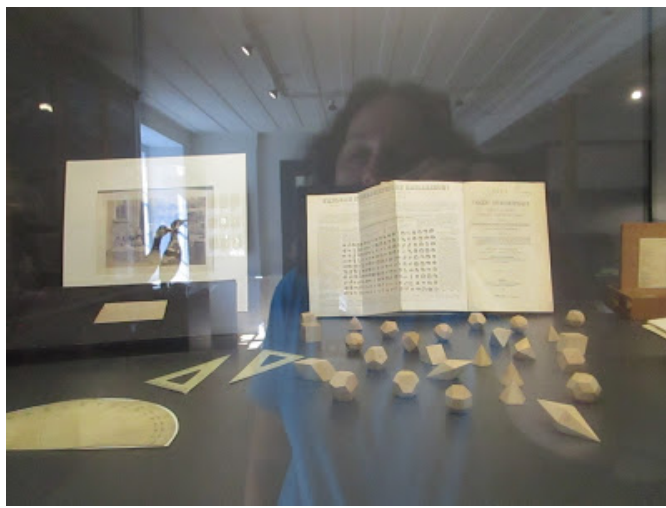
Reading and Writing; Grammar, Literature and Composition; Arithmetic, Book-keeping, Geometry, and Algebra; History, Sacred and Profane; Geography and the use of the Globe; Astronomy; Physics and Chemistry, with apparatus; Botany and other branches of Natural History; various useful and ornamental accomplishments; Foreign languages, &c., &c.

TERMS.			WARDROBE.	
	Per annum.	Per month.		
Board and Tuition . . . . .	\$70.00	\$7.00	2 White Dresses.	
Spring-bed & Bedstead . . . . .	1.50	0.15	1 Black Dress.	
Mattress, counterpane . . . . .	4.00	0.40	6 Chemises.	
Washing . . . . .	8.00	0.80	6 Paire of Drawers.	
Lessons on the Harp . . . . .	28.00	2.80	2 Flannel undershirts.	
" " Piano . . . . .	24.00	2.40	4 Night wraps.	
" " Harmonium . . . . .	24.00	2.40	2 Pairs sheets and pillow cases.	
" " Exercises in Singing . . . . .	5.00	0.50	1 Bathing Wrap.	
" " Singing (separate lessons) . . . . .	20.00	2.00	6 Pairs Cotton Stockings.	
" " Guitar . . . . .	20.00	2.00	6 " Worsted "	
" " Drawing and Painting (materials included) . . . . .	7.00	0.70	6 Table Napkins.	
" " German, Italian, or Spanish . . . . .	14.00	1.40	6 Toilet "	
Medical aid, Medicine . . . . .	3.50		2 doz. Handkerchiefs.	
Oil Painting, Pastel Drawing etc; Hair-work, Wax-Work, Artificial Flowers, &c., are subject to extra charges.			1 Veil of Black net, (two yards).	
Payment in advance, per term of three months.			1 White Veil, (three yards).	
No deduction for less than a fortnight's absence, and that in . . . . .			2 Bags for soiled linen and shoes.	
			Table-service, consisting of knife and fork, spoons and goblet.	
			A Toilet Box, furnished.	
			A Work Box,— "	
			Winter apparel for exercise in the open air, including shawl, warm gloves, &c.	
			A l these articles, as well as the rest of the wardrobe, not	



The museum has exhibits demonstrating the wide range of study of the schools students.







**Don't know much about history?** It sounds like this school was a good place to learn history.

### History classes

The aim of the history course was to develop the students' judgement. Sacred history occupied a prominent place. Next came the history of Antiquity followed by the history of the two motherlands, France and England. Lessons on the history of Canada were given more prominence as of the 1830s, notably under the impetus of Reverend Jean Holmes (1799-1852), a priest at the Quebec Seminary and brother of Soeur Sainte-Croix Holmes (1817-1910).



## The studio

*"The course of studies included... Drawing, oil, watercolour and gouache painting, miniature, pastel and pencil drawing, painting on velvet and satin..."*

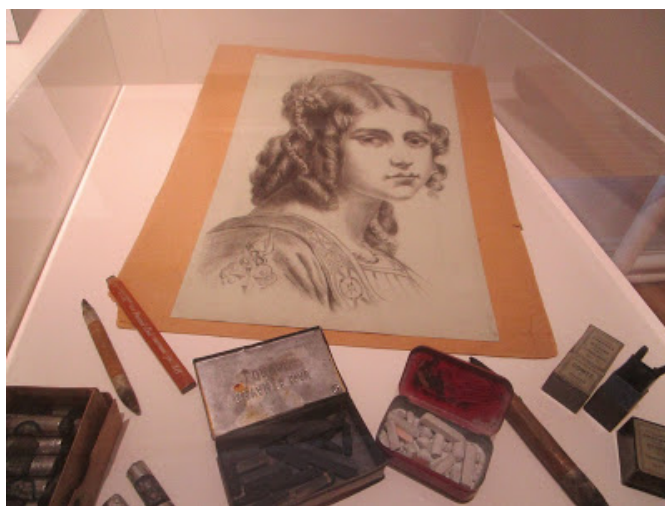
*... Excerpt from the French version of the 1847 prospectus*

From the nineteenth century onwards, the boarding school had its own studio, a spacious, sunny room where teachers and students could practice drawing, painting and other skills.

To ensure that they had the required qualifications for teaching drawing and painting the Ursulines called on the services of secular masters, renowned painters such as Wilhelm Von Moll Berczy (1744-1813), James Bowman (1793-1842) and Louis-Hubert Triaud (1790-1836). Lessons were given in the parlour and every precaution was taken to ensure the cloister rules were respected as far as possible.

*"A French artist who visited Quebec City at a later date offering for sale 'wonderful secrets', fuelled the ingenuity of our young nuns and prompted them to invent various highly useful and effective combinations."*

*Mère Saint-Thomas, Les Ursulines de Québec, depuis leur établissement jusqu'à nos jours, fourth tome, 1866.*



## Needlework

With the arrival of nuns of diverse origins, the French artistic heritage of the first Ursuline nuns was enhanced by British and American influences. Mère Marie de l'Incarnation O'Conway (1788-1865), an American nun who entered the Quebec Ursulines in 1823, had a decisive influence on the teaching of embroidery at the boarding school.

In the nineteenth century, one hour a day was dedicated to needlework. This activity combined both pedagogy and aesthetics, and the young ladies practiced by embroidering the letters of the alphabet. The samplers they created were to bear witness to the pupils' dexterity. The more experienced young ladies produced technically superior works that were more decorative and were true luxury embroidery. Often exhibited in the family home to be admired by visitors, needlework showcased the young ladies' talent and skills, and by extension, the prestige of their *Alma mater*.



**Music**

A contemplative, educational and social activity, music had pride of place in the education of young women at the Ursuline convent.

In the nineteenth century, music studies were deemed indispensable in a young lady's education, helping not only to develop her artistic talents but also more personal abilities such as discipline, patience, determination, perseverance and finally the capacity to perform in society.

The archives and the rich collection of musical instruments preserved at the Monastery bear witness to the quality of the musical instruction the Ursulines offered. The nuns were always on the lookout for new trends and new methods. They knew how to keep abreast of the latest pedagogical tools and breakthroughs in instrument making.



In the 19th Century jewelry made from hair was popular in many western countries. The Nuns responded to this fad with a curriculum that included the making of this jewelry. They also used wax to make interesting novelty items.



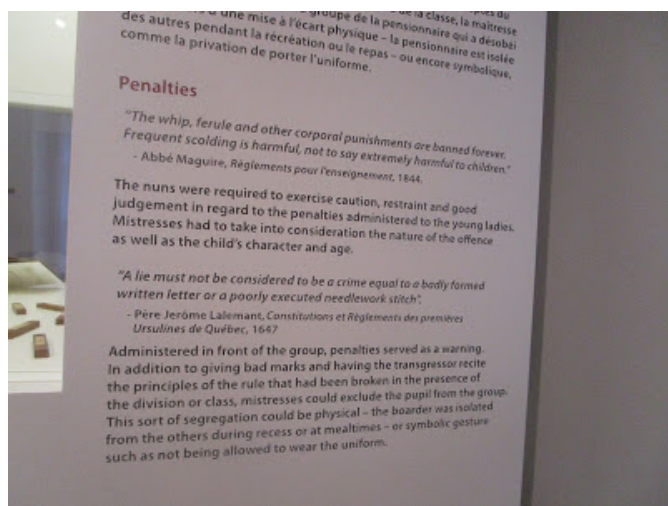
There were debates on what should be included in the girls curriculum. In the Early 20th Century the course of study became more narrow with Home Economics becoming central. It was felt that girls mainly needed to be prepared for their roles as wives and mothers. Housekeeping skills such as cooking, ironing, and sewing clothing for the family were taught.



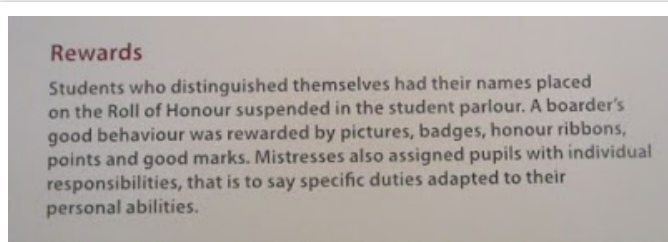




Forms of Punishment changed over time. Originally punishments could be corporal. That was one reason the Native people resisted sending their children to these schools. Native Americans were against any kind of punishment for children.



Rewards.





The Nuns were fully equipped to handle most illnesses the girls came down with. Any kind of contagious illness spread like wildfire.



Girls could fake illness to get out to classes.

*"The infirmary can be open to extensive abuse if we are not heedful of the deviousness of children. The common case of wanting ministrations with sweetmeats and candy, coupled with dispensation from homework, is the most widespread illness among pupils; and distinguishing between this sickness and the real ones is vital."*

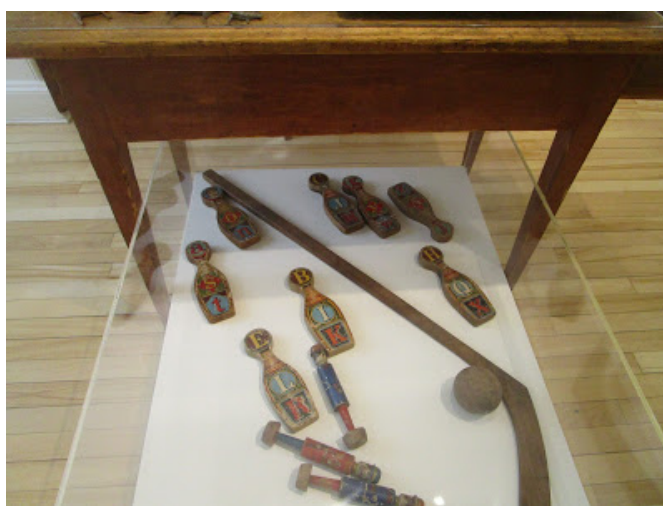
- Abbé Maguire, *Règlements pour l'enseignement*, 1844.



Keeping the girls healthy meant keeping the buildings clean, and the girls in strong physical shape. Exercise was recognized as a way to stay healthy. Gym equipment was provided and psychological education was part of the curriculum.

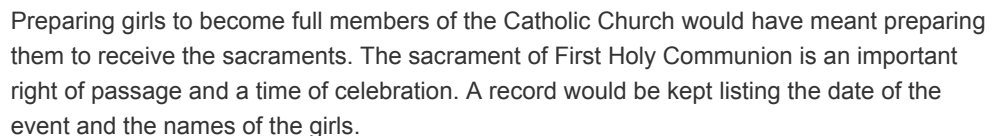


The girls also were provided with games and toys for entertainment. One reason I would have rather lived with my Catholic French Canadian ancestors rather than my strict Protestant ancestors who believed having fun was somehow evil. The French Canadians were generally in favor of having fun.



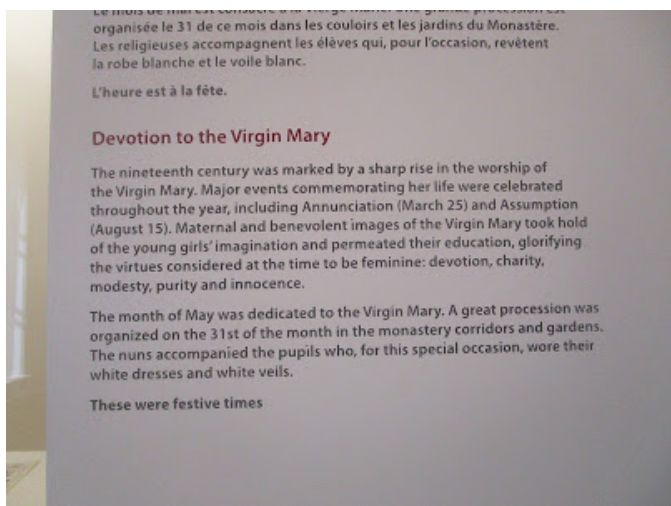








Religious feast days, and other special religious holidays, would have been days of celebration and a break from studies.



Despite the homesickness the girls did form bonds with their classmates and the Nuns. Leaving this controlled environment must have been a little jarring for the girls, just as it was entering in the first place.

The museum preserves records and photos of the girls who attended the school over the decades. You can hear recollections of former students using the headphones provided at the museum.







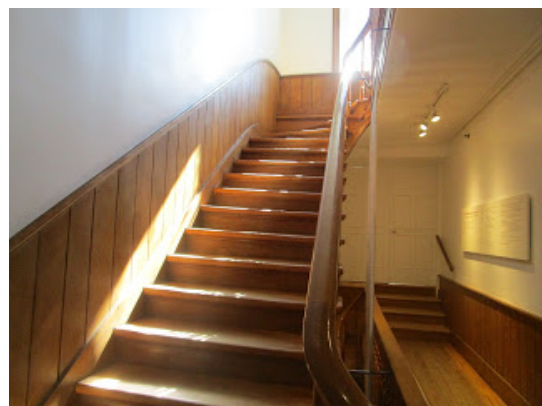
Elèves Pensionnaires, de Septembre 1854 à  
Juillet 1859.

The names of Pupils who are not from the diocese of Quebec,  
are indicated.

Amiriaux, Albina.	Belleau, Philomène.
Amiriaux, Amelia.	Bernier, Emma.
Amiriaux, Caroline.	Brenan, Elizabeth.
Archer, Mary-Ann.	Buie, Victoria.
Archer, Elizabeth.	Bouchard, Julie.
Allard, Marie.	Borne, Zélie.
Allard, Emma.	Bouchard, Laure.
Allan, Ellen.	Burns, Catherine.
Audette, Henriette.	Blanchet, Wilhelmine.
Angers, Emma.	Barthe, Emilie.
Angers, Adine.	Bélanger, Anna.
Angers, Félicité.	Bélanger, Daris=e.
Audet, Olympe.	Belanger, Marguerite.
Ardouin, Julia.	Bérubé, Mathilde.
Alleyn, Margaret.	Bérubé, Sophie.
Angers, Marie.	Buckle, Rosanna, N. B.

Photos of the last remaining Nuns are on display in a special exhibit. Only two are still living in the convent, the others are living in an assisted living facility.





The Ursuline Nuns who dedicated their lives to educating girls provided an important service to society. They educated not only Catholic girls, but also non Catholics. Boarding schools like this one provided a topnotch education. Thomas Jefferson sent his daughters to a Catholic boarding school in Paris when he was living there. Visiting the Ursuline museum will give you an appreciation for the Nuns and their dedication to education. (Next up will be the Augustines and their mission to care for the sick).



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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

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Wednesday, October 23, 2019

## Using Facial Recognition to ID Photo & Finally Success After Twenty Years!



This photo only says Kappel on the back. The family matches Mary Kurta-Kappel and the 5 children she left Belgium with in 1910. Likely taken in what is now Inzenhof, Burgenland, Austria

I've been searching for photos of my Kappel great-grandparents, and their children, for a little over 20 years. I've been asking my family, and distant cousins online, if they had any such photos? For many years I've done frequent Google searches, and searched through the photos at Ancestry hoping to find photos of my great-grandparents and 10 of their 11 children. I was given a photo of my grandfather by an Aunt when I was a child. My grandparents divorced when my father was a child, and my grandmother moved with her children to Los Angeles. My grandfather remained in Chicago. The family knew very little about the Kappel side of the family and had no photos of them. My father didn't look like my grandmother's side of the family, and neither do I. I've been dying to see what the side of the family we took after looked like? The family was from what is today Inzenhof, Burgenland, Austria.

A 2nd cousin match of one of my aunt's contacted me to tell me he had some photos. That was last May when I was in Ireland and not checking my email. Fortunately I got in contact with him again in September. Coincidentally another relative got in contact with me at



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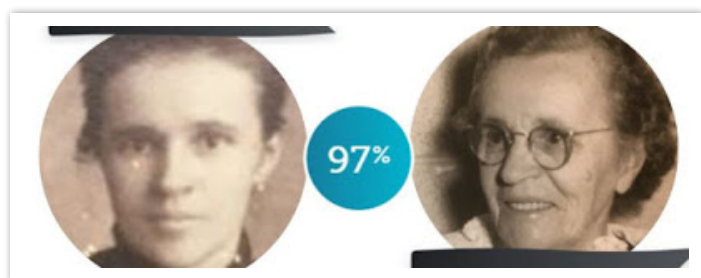
Ancestry around the same time. She also had family photos. After all this time two people came forward with photos!

My aunt's 2nd cousin match, who lives in Austria, has dozens of family photos the problem is many aren't marked. How does one identify people in photos, many taken over 100 years old? I thought about that for a while and remembered facial recognition software could match up the faces. The FamilySearch Discovery site [Compare-A-Face's](#) feature was the only one I was familiar with; so I began comparing the marked photos with the unmarked photos.

The FamilySearch [Compare-A-Face](#) feature gives you a percentage which represents your likeness to the person you're comparing with. The site is designed to allow you to compare yourself with your ancestors and relatives. I found that it's actually even more helpful when it comes to comparing the same people in different photos at different ages.

What I needed to do after beginning my comparison was to decide what percentage would indicate the a person in two different photos was the same person? I haven't found a relative that I matched that was more than 60% similar to me, my father who looked much like his father had a 70% likeness to him. I've also found that even unrelated people can get a 60% likeness, which would lead me to believe that any match in that range isn't really significant. It appears to me that a likeness over 70% indicates a relationship between those compared. A likeness over 90% is a strong indication the people in the two photos are the same person (although siblings can match in that range).

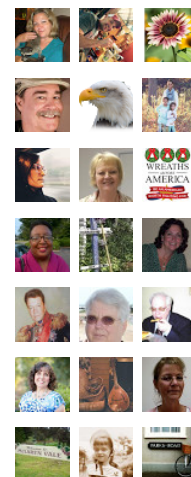
The marked photos I have are mainly of people over 50 years of age. The unmarked ones are of people under 40. Here is an example using a comparison of my great-grandmother Mary Kurta-Kappel's photos. It gives a 97% likeness which I would take as a confirmation they are of same woman. If both photos were taken at around the same ages I would expect a 99% likeness. Below we see Mary on the left under 30 years of age, and Mary, on the right, in her 70's. There are still enough similarities too make an accurate identification. I've found this isn't always the case. Some people change quite substantially with age and their comparisons fall below 90%. Also the quality of the photos makes a difference. Poor quality images may not produce accurate results.



I had wondered how high a percentage would be possible among family members who look very much alike? I was saying that 90% scores generally confirm two people are the same, but actually siblings can also match in the 90% range at FamilySearch. That is because this feature at FamilySearch isn't designed for the purpose of identifying the same person in different photos. I think it is very helpful for doing that in most cases because most people aren't carbon copies of other people. Siblings can be an exception, however.

I decided to try the Amazon AWS site to see if it would help me differentiate people that look very much alike such as these siblings below. The FamilySearch [Compare-A-Face](#) feature says they are 92% similar and we might conclude they are the same person? No they are not. They are Kurta family sisters Mary and Rosalia.

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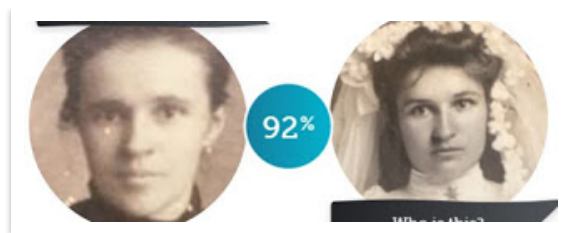
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The facial comparison feature at Amazon is called Rekognition. It's used by law enforcement agencies to identify criminals. Doing a comparison of the same photos with the same people above Rekognition isn't giving a percentage score in the 90's or 80's, for that matter, because the strike mark through the equals signs means they are unlikely to be the same person at all. A close look at their facial features confirms to me this is a correct prediction.

- 2016 (24)
- 2015 (30)
- 2014 (53)
- 2013 (59)
- 2012 (76)
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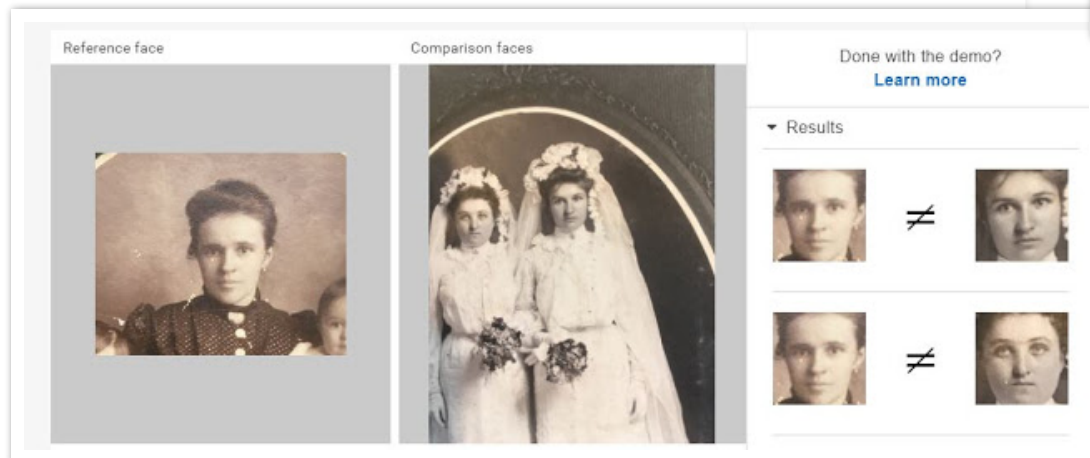
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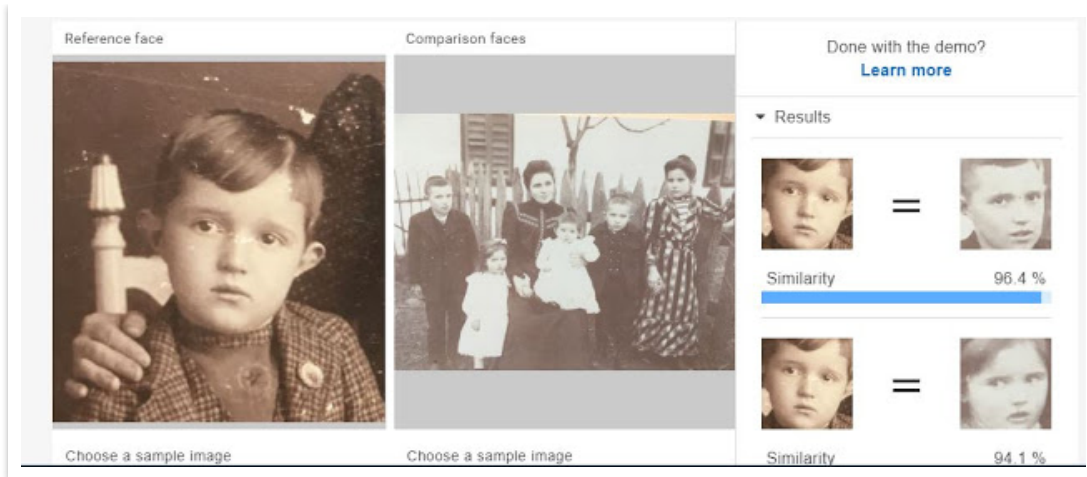
## Feedjit



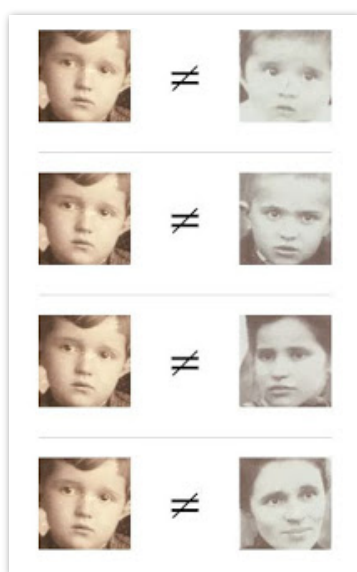
Amazon's facial **Rekognition** isn't very good when it comes to low quality images or people compared at different ages. I'm still using both sites for my comparisons. I feel very confident when both sites agree with nearly the same high percentages.

The comparisons are especially difficult when it comes to children. Apple suggests children under 13 avoid using facial recognition on their phones because children, especially siblings, can look too much alike. Apparently children don't develop an appearance with enough distinctiveness until puberty for facial recognition to be a secure lock for devices.

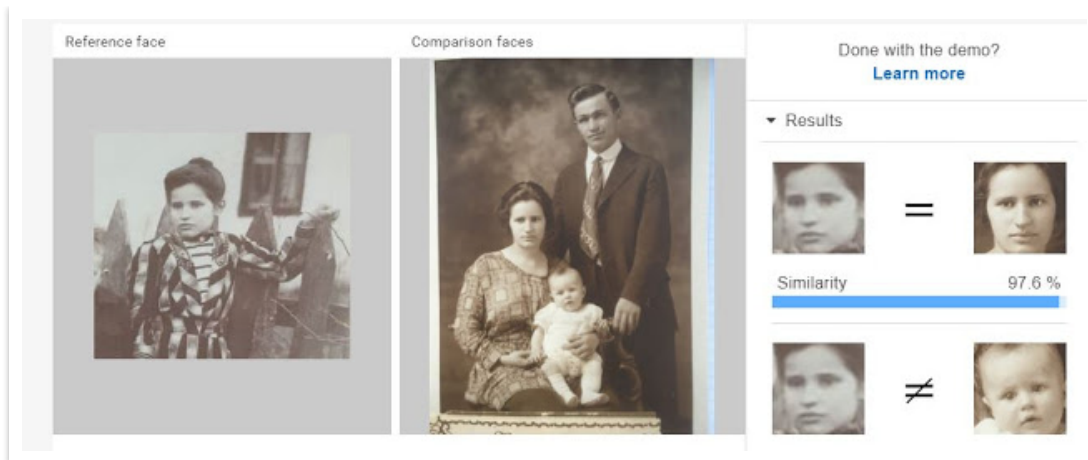
Here you can see how 2 siblings of different sexes are so similar looking they are both given high percentages of likeness by Amazon **Rekognition**. The photo of the family group is marked Koppel on the back with no first names. The mother in the photo matches Mary Kurta-Kappel at a high percentage so I would say this is Mary and her children. Mary and 5 of her children sailed from a port in Belgium to New York in 1910. These children seem to match those children age wise (maybe a goodbye photo?). The eldest boy was Stephen. I would guess the boy in both photos is likely Stephen at different ages.



We also see faces that aren't as similar with the = sign struck through.



Another match between this photo and an unmarked photo is the one below. It appears the eldest, daughter in the family group photo matches another photo of a woman with her husband and baby. I wouldn't have caught this without facial recognition. Once I saw the high percentage I looked at the two photos very carefully and the look of the eyes, shape the face, and mouth do look very much alike. There is a possibility of error when it comes to using computer generated facial comparisons. You have to examine the photos yourself and decide whether the predictions are correct? As I have read humans are still better than computers at picking up subtle differences in faces.



One feature which is helpful that FamilySearch **Compare-a-Face** doesn't have, and Amazon's **Rekognition** does, is you can find someone using a single photo of them uploaded on the left and a group photo on the right. An example of this is the comparison below. I used a photo of Johann Koeppel at his wedding and a group photo of his sister Juliana's wedding. This feature successfully picked Johann out of the crowd, and eliminated the rest of the group.

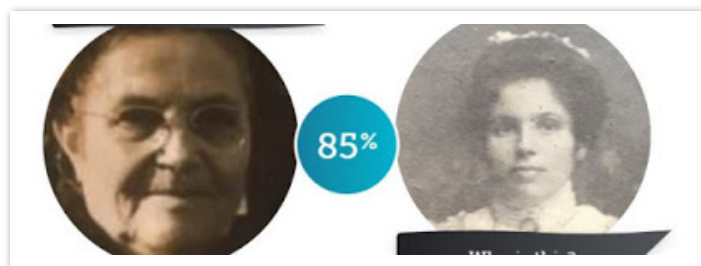


I have a few people in photos I haven't be able to identify. Here is an example of how I'm trying to identify these people. I have a photo of 3 people that is unmarked, below, or it is stuck down with glue so you can't see the back? According to what is written on this photo page 3 siblings may appear in photos on this page. They are named as Julia, Herman, and Maria/Mary (Mary is my ancestor). A photo at the top of the page appears to be of 3 siblings. We know Herman is the man in the photo but the two women are trickier. According to facial recognition their faces are similar to one another with high percentages of similarity. My observation is the woman on the right is Maria/Mary. So is the woman on the left Julia? I have no marked photos of her so I don't know? I would like more verification before I make a judgement. Since the two women look alike I would guess they are very likely Mary and her sister Julia?





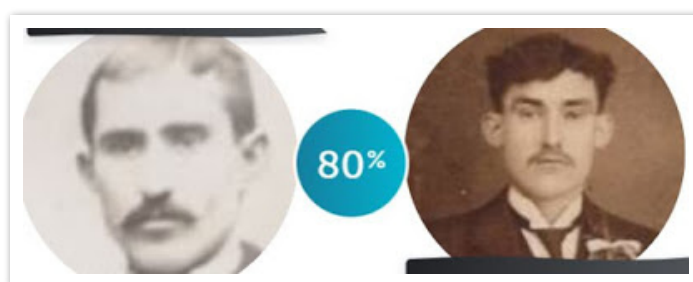
When comparing the unknown person in the photo above with another unknown in another photo there are similarities. The wedding photo, below right, was obviously taken many years before the photo above so there is unlikely to be an exact likeness. According to FamilySearch's **Compare-A-Face** they are 85% similar. I've verified with other family photos that can be the case as people age they often compare with younger photos in the 80% range. However, Amazon's **Rekognition** disagrees, and does not identify them as possibly the same person. Like I said before Amazon's feature doesn't do as well with poor quality images or people at different ages. Unlike the FamilySearch feature this product is designed to identify the same person at around the same age.



Care always has to be taken because even cousins look alike. I have enough identified pictures of Mary/Maria Kurta-Kappel to identify the photo below with a high degree of confidence that this is Mary Kurta-Kappel with her husband Frank Kappel. It better be Frank or Mary was cheating lol.



I can further identify Frank by comparing him his cousin who is in marked photos. I thought he looked somewhat like his cousin; so I did the comparison. **Compare-A-Face** agrees with me. When I compared at **Rekognition** it did its job by declaring they were not the same person, and clearly they are not. However I now know cousins can have similarities in the 80% range.



Doing so many comparisons has helped me understand how these features work, and how to best use them for identifying unknown people in photographs, and even people who were wrongly identified in photos.

Amazon's AWS **Rekognition** requires that you provide credit card information to use it. This feature is free to use. Other features on this site cost money to use so they want a credit card on file because of that. I think they want to know who is using this also? They'll charge your credit card a \$1 fee to verify it is good. They are supposed to refund the dollar but this is so helpful I don't care if they do. It's worth \$1. I had a hard time logging in the first time. You have to click the root login then enter your email address which brings up the box for your password.

The only requirement for using the FamilySearch **Compare-A-Face** feature is a free account with them. The only draw back with using this site to compare multiple photos is when you want to change the primary person for comparison you have keep clicking menu in the top right hand corner to go back to the upload page (it's helpful to save images when asked although it doesn't always work?). You can compare with the primary person's photo, on the right, continuously by clicking the plus sign in the left corner to upload a photo or compare with saved photos shown across the top of the page. .



I am able to compare some of the photos using my own eyesight. People at different ages, and people who have gained or lost weight, can be tricky for me to compare using my vision alone. The facial recognition comparisons have been very helpful for me as I sort through dozens of photos.

Never give up if you are also looking for photos of ancestors. You never know who might have them, or where they might be? Remember in the 20th Century our ancestors attended events where they may have been photographed, such as family weddings? Also my great-grandmother sent photos of herself and her family back to her sister who still lived in Austria. Keep looking and asking if you're looking for family photos.

Below are some photos I can't identify. They were taken in Allentown, Pennsylvania. They are likely Kurta family relatives. One may be Julia Deutsch nee Kurta?





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Posted by [Annette](#) at [3:51 PM](#) 7 comments: 

Monday, September 16, 2019

## The Augustine Nuns of Quebec and their Mission to Care for the Sick





The first hospital to treat the sick in New France was set up by the Augustine Sisters, they were also known as the Hospitaller Sisters because of their mission to care for the sick. They arrived in Quebec in 1639. The founding sisters of the Augustines in Quebec were Mothers Marie de Saint-Ignace Guenet, Marie de Saint-Bonaventure Forestier, and Anne de Saint-Bernard Le Cointre . Their first settlement in Quebec was in today's Sillery. Their financial supporter was a niece of the French Cardinal Richelieu named Marie-Madeleine de Vignerot, Duchess of Duchesse d'Aiguillon, who stated the focus of the Nuns should be on treating the Native Americans in order to convert them (unfortunately Europeans brought diseases with them that resulted many deaths). This first site for the treatment of the sick was basically a Native American camp site. They ministered to the sick at that site until their hospital and monastery were completed in the town of Quebec where they were safe from attack by the Iroquois.

The hospital the Sisters founded was called Hotel Dieu, a name used in France for such facilities. A teaching hospital affiliated with the University of Laval in Quebec City sits on the original site of the Hotel Dieu.

The Hotel Dieu Hospital was said to have a high cure rate for its time. An early doctor in this facility was well known for his surgical skills. According to the website "[Ville de Quebec](#)": An early doctor was, "*Michel Sarrazin, who in 1700 successfully performed the first mastectomy in North America. His patient, a nun diagnosed with breast cancer, died 40 years later at the age of 77.*"

The sisters couldn't rely on medicines shipped from faraway France so they had to learn to make their own. They used traditional French herbal medicines along with new ones they were introduced to by the Native Americans.

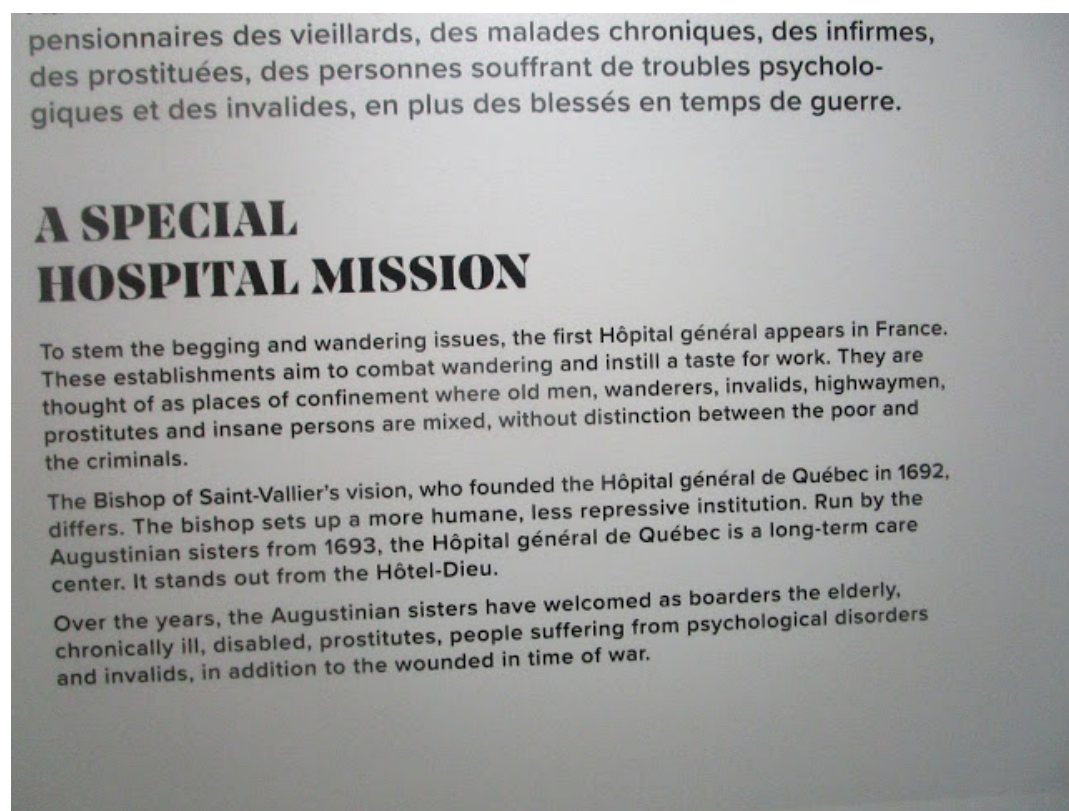
The site of the hospital was expanded over its more than 300 year history with many additions added. There are 3 cemeteries on the grounds. One cemetery was for the poor, and another for those who died during the Seven Years War.

A description of the Monastery buildings from the website Encyclopedia of French Cultural Heritage in North America: "*The Augustinians of Dieppe, France, arrived in Quebec in 1639 and set up temporary quarters in Sillery until their Hôtel-Dieu—or hospital—was completed in 1644. Thirty years later the site housed a monastery, chapel and two wards for the sick. In 1695 two new wings were added to the existing buildings to form a square courtyard. Fire ravaged the premises in 1755, leaving only one 1695 wing and the “noviciate” wing from*

*1739–1740 in usable condition. Reconstruction work began in 1756 and lasted until 1758. A chapel, also overlooking Rue Charlevoix, was built between 1800 and 1803. The chapel and some of the works of art it contained were classified historic monuments by the Quebec government in 1961. The monastery, its grounds, the surrounding wall, and neighbouring buildings were classified a historic site in 2003."*

The Augustine Nuns founded 12 Monasteries and hospitals in Quebec.

There were two hospital facilities in the area of the town of Quebec. One designed to treat on a short term basis, and another was a long term care facility as described below.



### A virtual tour of the Augustine Museum

The Museum contains medical equipment and other artifacts that belonged to the Nuns.



## Shoes

Early 18<sup>th</sup> century  
Leather, silk, wood

Le Monastère des Augustines collections, Hôpital général de Québec

These shoes have long been associated with the Bishop of Saint-Vallier. Although this attribution remains uncertain, we know that red heels and silk ribbons were linked to nobility during Louis XIV's reign.



### NOTRE-DAME ET L'ENFANT-JÉSUS

VERS 1648

COLLECTION DU MONASTÈRE DE L'HÔTEL-DIEU DE QUÉBEC, CLOÛRE NOUVEAU-FRANCE

Cette statue de Notre-Dame et l'Enfant-Jésus aurait été donnée par les Carmélites de Paris en 1648, neuf ans après l'arrivée des premières Augustines en Nouvelle-France. La vierge titulaire du monastère de l'Hôtel-Dieu de Québec, Notre-Dame de Toutes-Grâces, est exposée dans l'église de l'Hôtel-Dieu de Québec.

### OUR LADY AND THE INFANT JESUS

ABOUT 1648

HÔTEL-DIEU MONASTÈRE COLLECTION, CLOÛRE NOUVEAU-FRANCE

This statue of Our Lady and the Infant Jesus was offered by the Carmelite convent of Paris in 1648, nine years after the arrival of the first Augustinian Sisters in New France. The tutelary statue of Hôtel-Dieu monastery in Québec City, Our Lady of All Graces, is on display in the Hôtel-Dieu de Québec church.

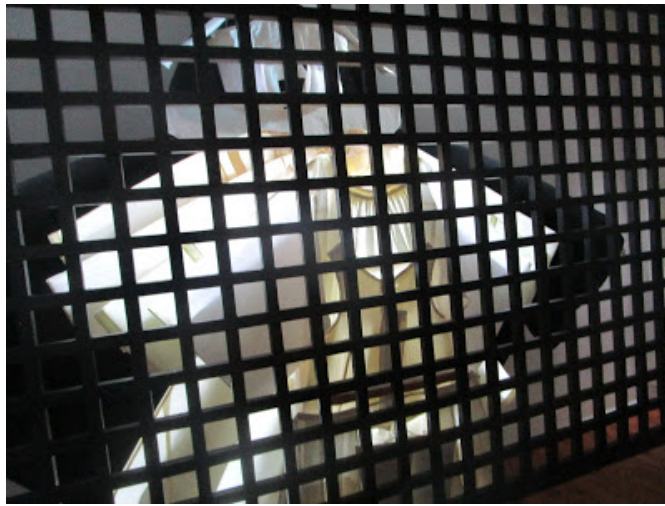


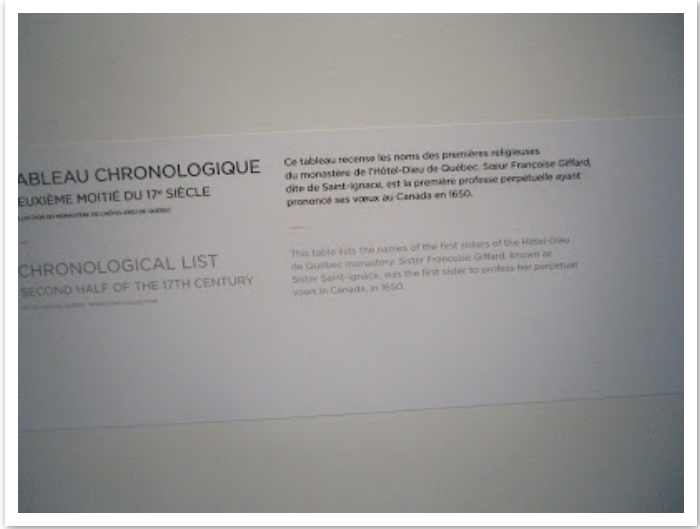




Those applying to become Augustine Nuns were given a pattern to make the postulates gown

The Augustine Nuns like their Ursuline counterparts were cloistered. The only time they weren't cloistered behind walls and bars is when they served in the hospital.





Communion Wafer box 18th Century









Inhaler for dispensing medicine





Electrotherapy device from around about 1855



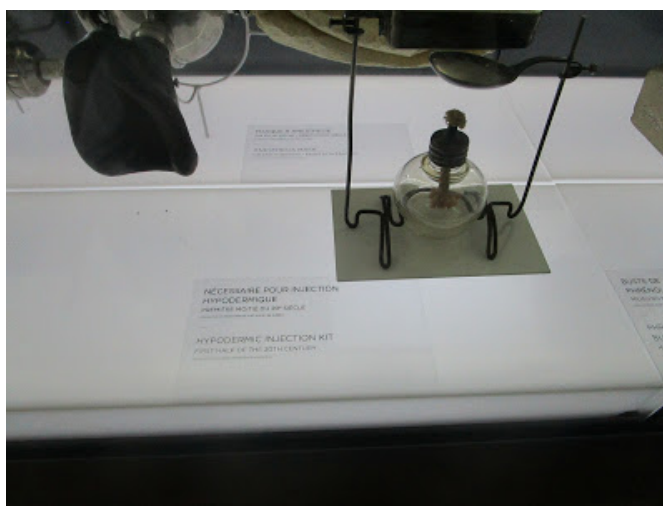
Anesthesia mask made by the Sisters in 1848



Sterilizer from about 1920

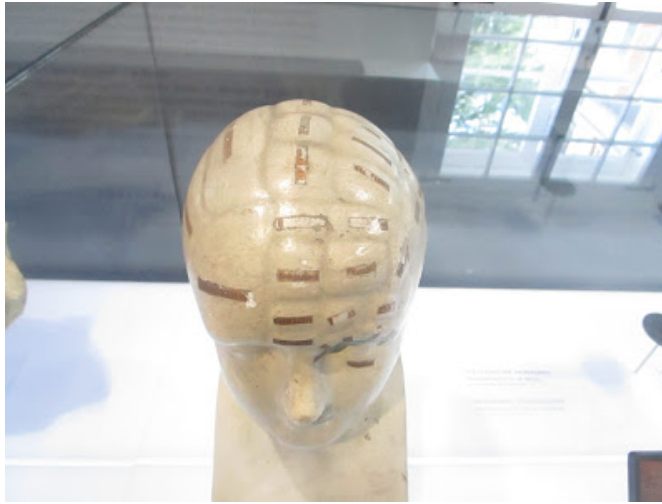


Anesthesia mask late 19th and early 20th century

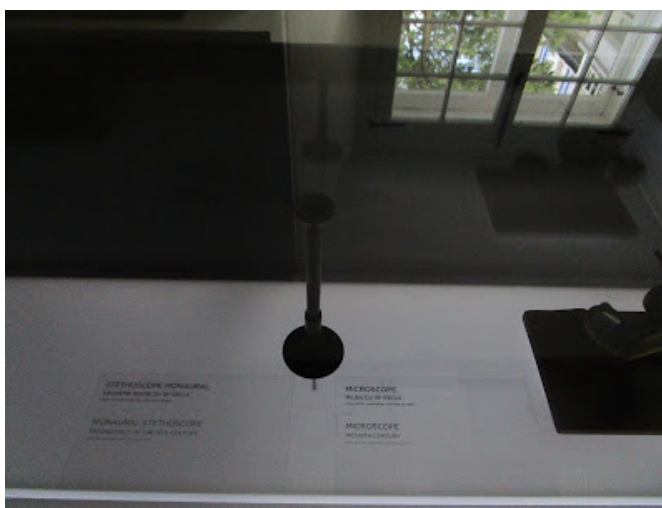


Hypodermic injection kit Early 20th Century





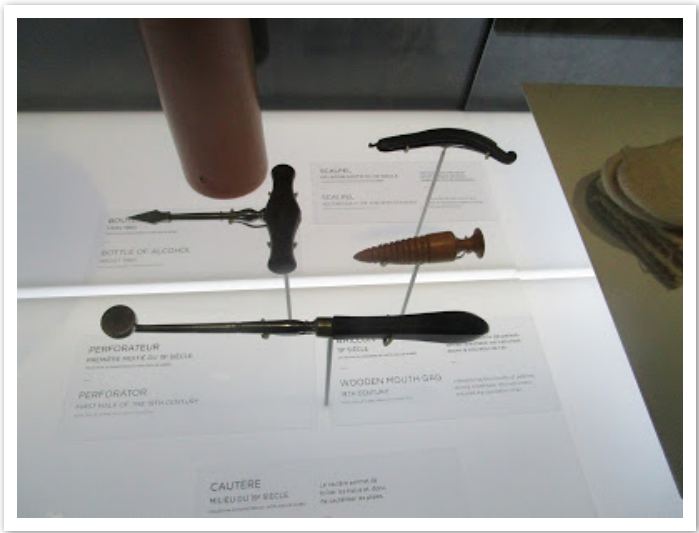
Phrenology skulls were used to predict mental traits based on bumps on the skull.



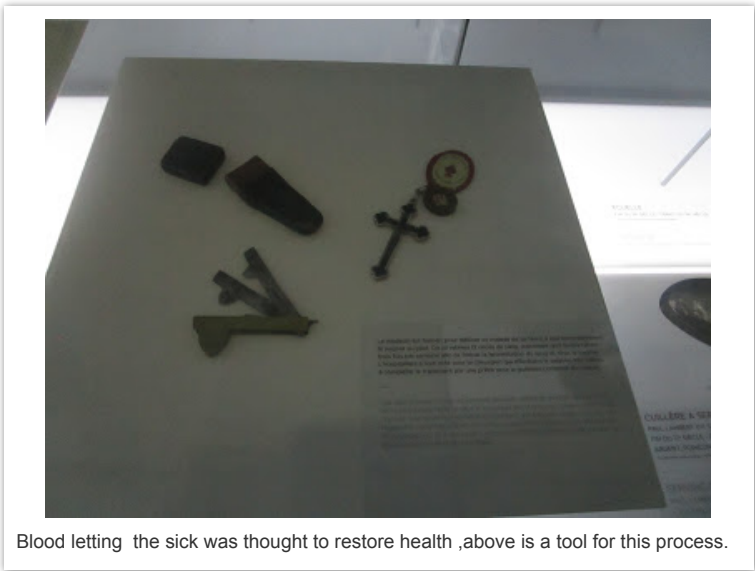
Stethoscope 2nd half the the 19th Century



Surgical instrument set used to remove musket balls soldier during the Battle of the Plains of Abraham



Extreme Unction Kit for giving last rights





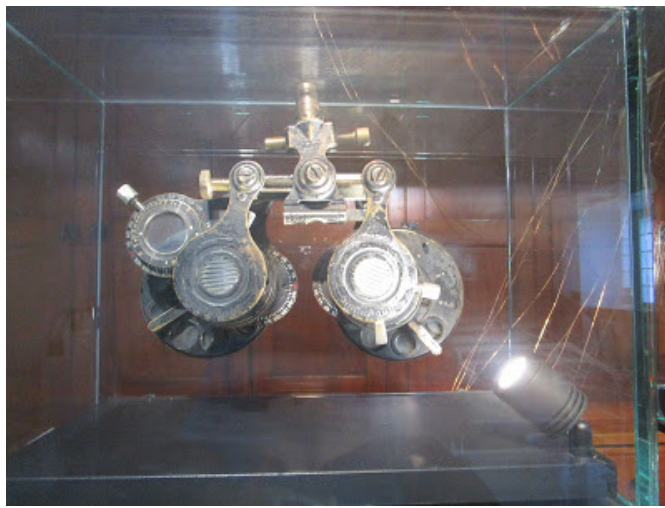
Cupping was another process thought to have curative affects. Above are 19th Century cups.



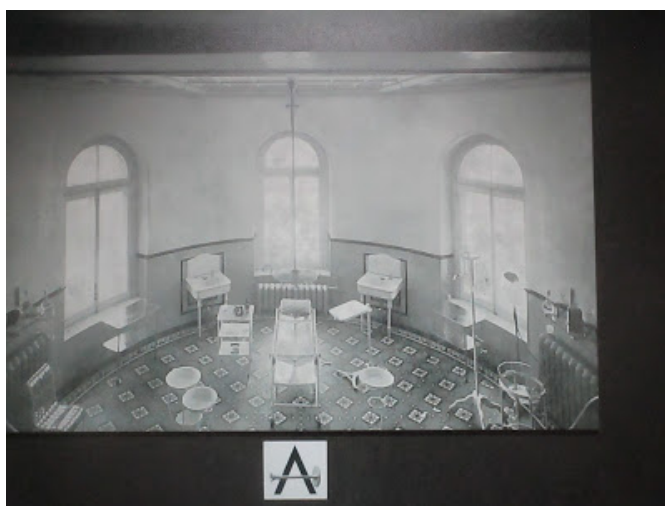
Disinfection table for surgeon in the 19th Century. It would contain a hand washing basin, soap, and towels.

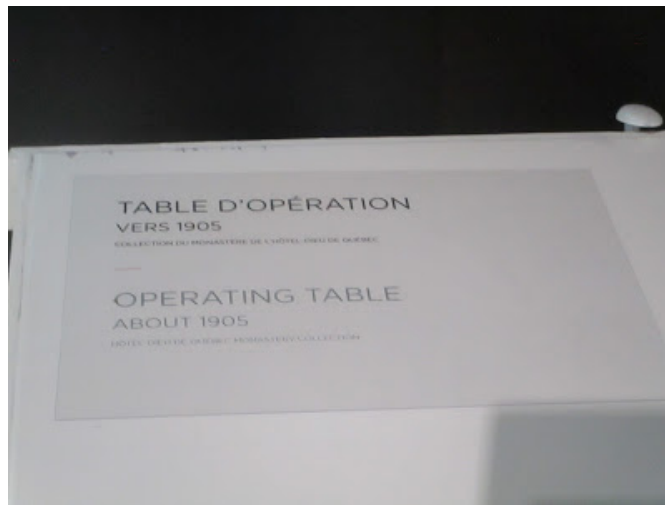


The Sisters were supposed to treat patients as if they were Christ. This painting is a demonstration of that kind of care.









### The Monastery Facility

The old monastery building is as fascinating as the medical museum. Walking the halls takes you back in time. I thought the atmosphere was calming. Most of the old Monastery has been converted into a hotel. I think it would be a nice quiet place to stay. Breakfast is eaten in silence as it was when the Sisters were here.





The dining hall where silent breakfasts are still served



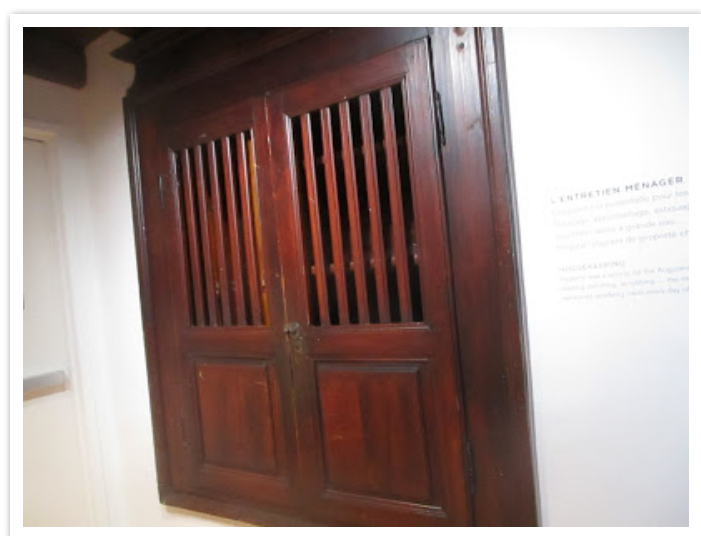
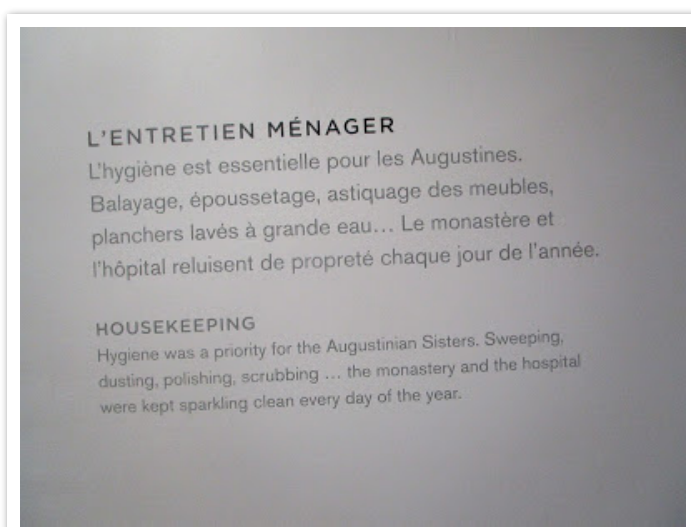
Storage cupboard for dining hall



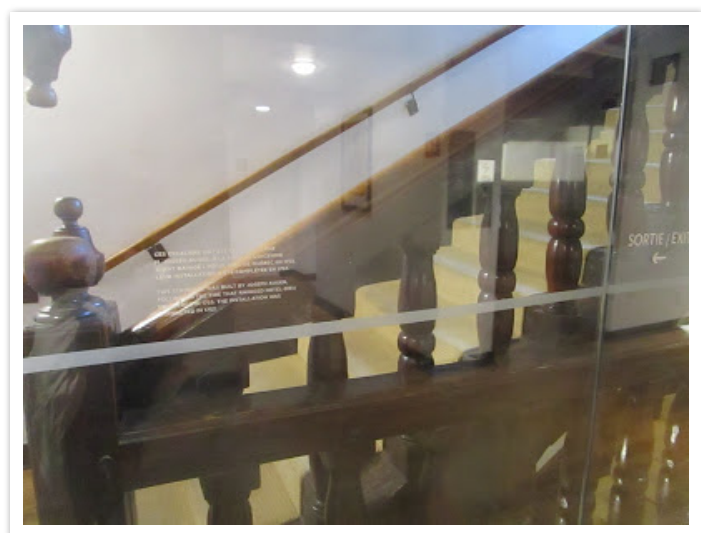
Ancient Staircase

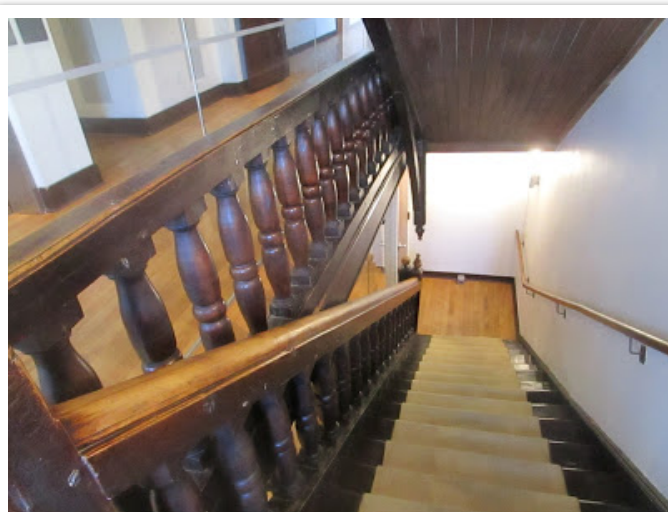
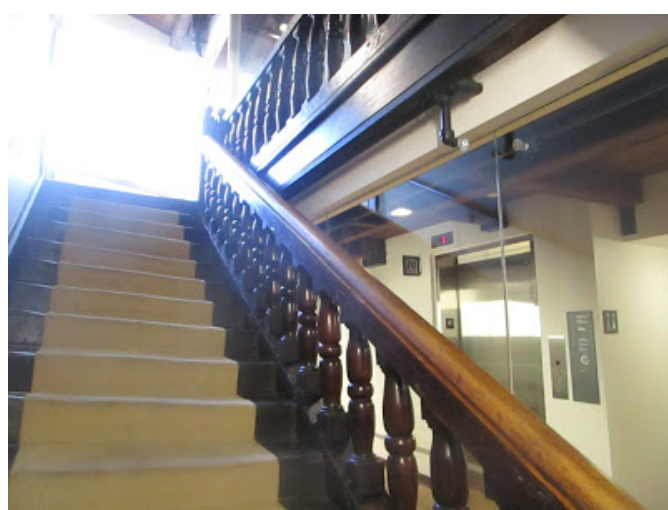
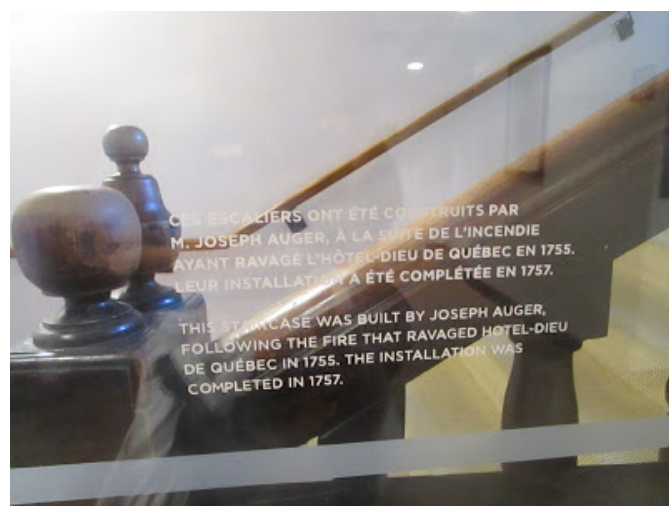


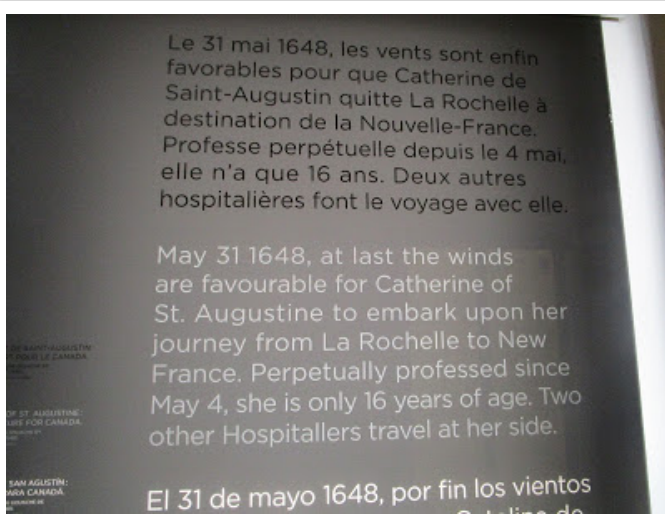




The staircases that were built in 1757 by Joseph Auger are particularly interesting. Very historical staircases they will make you feel you've traveled back in time. You can use them in there creaky old delightful condition to get up the stairs if you're lucky and the doors to them aren't locked.







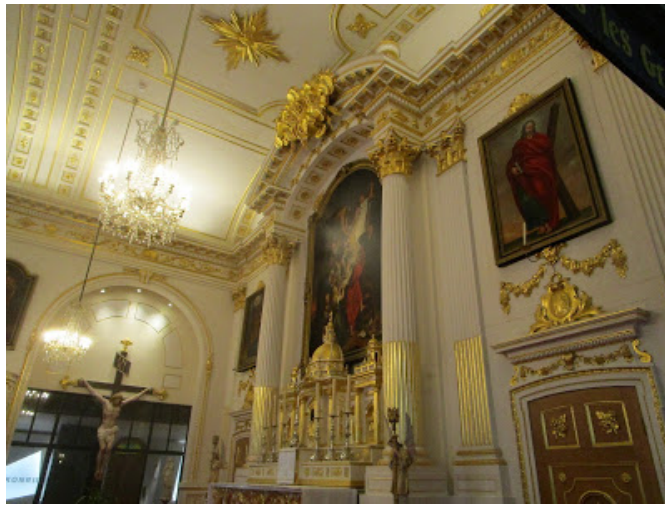


The Monastery Chapel built between 1800 and 1803. Like the Ursuline Chapel the Nuns had their own chapel separated from the other worshippers.









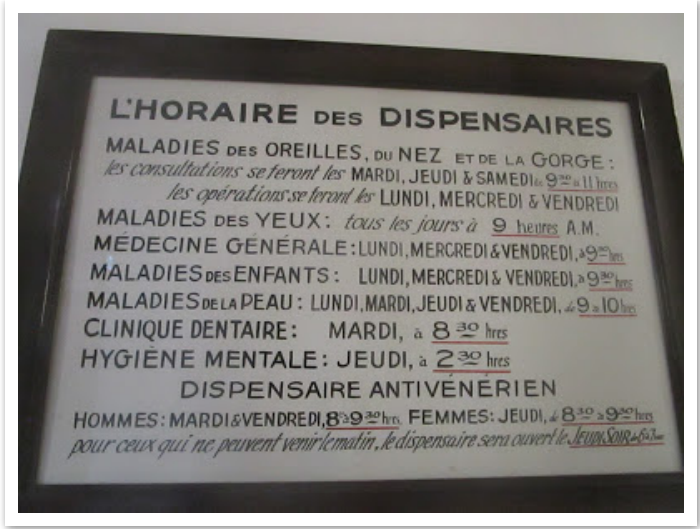














The Augustine Monastery is well worth a visit if you are visiting the City of Quebec. It's a peaceful place to meditate, and learn about the history of Quebec.

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Posted by [Annette](#) at [3:10 PM](#)    No comments:    

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#) [My Pedigree Charts](#) [Research Goals](#)

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

## Resources I've Used to Fill In the Story of My French Canadian Family



Rue Saint Louis. The street where Anne Greslon inherited property.

The first French Canadian family history research resources I was introduced to when I started my research 20 years ago were the the Catholic Church records and Census records. I then moved to some of the Jesuit writings and wills. I've also used Familysearch.org notarial records on film and digitized to fill in missing documentation.

A few months ago I was able fill in some additional information regarding my Mason/Masson great-grandparents using the resources I already knew about. The problem finding them in the past involved indexing errors. These records are now showing up when I enter their names because someone has corrected these errors at Ancestry.ca.

I had no idea when my ancestors Pierre Masson and Aurelie Lambert died until this year when the Census index was corrected at Ancestry.ca.

In the 1871 Census for Quebec, Canada we indeed find Aurelie misspelled Orilie. Finding this record confirmed to me that the Pierre Masson and Aurelie Lambert were still living in Quebec, and in the same area as in 1851. It appears their son is living close to the couple because their son Augustin Masson is the next entry on this Census record.



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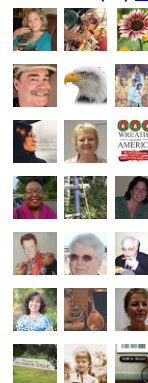
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Province de Québec District No. 124 Admiration Sous-District de Rivière-du-Loup  
Tableau No. 1—Dénombrement des Vivants. 1881

Age	Sex	Marital Status	Profession	Religion	Place of Birth	Place of Residence	Place of Birth of Father	Place of Birth of Mother	Place of Birth of Grandfather	Place of Birth of Grandmother	Place of Birth of Great-grandfather	Place of Birth of Great-grandmother
34	M	Married	Farmer	Catholic	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec
26	F	Married	Farmer's wife	Catholic	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec

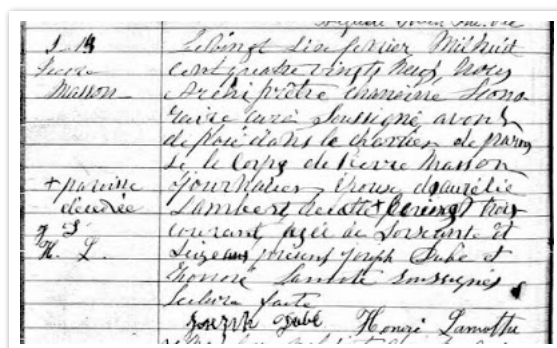
In the 1881 Census for Quebec, Canada the same ancestral couple's entry is again indexed wrong. With both the name surname Masson, and the first name Aurelie difficult to read for those not familiar with this couple and a foreign handwriting I can see why the indexer had problems deciphering this entry. This entry confirmed the couple was still alive in 1881, which suggested I should look for their death records in Quebec church records.

Province de Québec District No. 124 Admiration Sous-District de Rivière-du-Loup  
Tableau No. 1—Dénombrement des Vivants. 1871

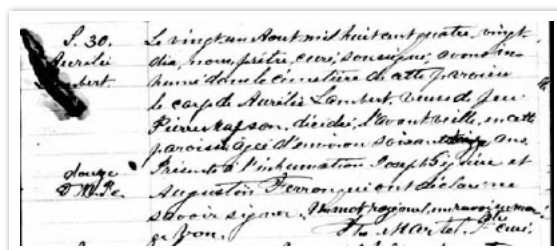
Age	Sex	Marital Status	Profession	Religion	Place of Birth	Place of Residence	Place of Birth of Father	Place of Birth of Mother	Place of Birth of Grandfather	Place of Birth of Grandmother	Place of Birth of Great-grandfather	Place of Birth of Great-grandmother
34	M	Married	Farmer	Catholic	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec
26	F	Married	Farmer's wife	Catholic	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec	Quebec

Not finding this couple in the 1871 and 1881 Census for Canada, previously, I assumed they probably migrated to maybe New England? I didn't find them in the Catholic Church death records which seemed to support a migration away from the Quebec area at least. Armed with the new information I now focused on finding a death record in Canada.

I did locate Pierre Masson's Catholic Church death record. I was not able to locate it before because his name was mistakenly indexed as Pierre Mallon. He died on 20 Feb 1889 in the family area of Rivière-du-Loup (Louiseville), Quebec, Canada. If I had paged through the books instead of relying on the index I would have found it. The entry is definitely for my Pierre Masson because it states that his wife was Aurelie Lambert.



Pierre's widow Aurelie Lambert died fairly soon after her husband on 19 Aug 1890, in St-Barnabé-Nord, Maskinongé, Québec, Canada. She was living with family in that area after her husband died.



I had wondered if this couple had followed their son, my ancestor Pierre Masson/Peter Mason to America, now I know they didn't. I actually did page through the death records for

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► September (2)

► August (1)

► July (1)

► June (2)

► May (1)

► April (1)

► March (2)

► February (1)

► January (1)

► 2019 (16)

► 2018 (22)

► 2017 (31)

► 2016 (24)

► 2015 (30)

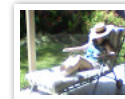
► 2014 (53)

► 2013 (59)

► 2012 (76)

► 2011 (94)

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St-Leon-le-Grande, but Pierre's death occurred in a neighboring parish and Aurelie died in an area I had never heard of before.

## The Library and National Archives of Quebec online

Recently I was introduced to some new resources searchable online. This site "[BANQ's](#)" contains digitized copies of early Quebec records including notarial records. I found many interesting family records which fill in the stories of my ancestors lives in Quebec, and provide more documentation for my family tree.

Some of the book resources I've found helpful:

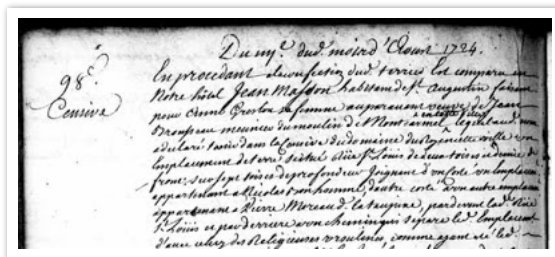
1. [Inventory of wills, donations and inventories of the French regime kept at the Archives judiciaires de Québec](#) Volume 1
2. [Inventory of wills, donations and inventories of the French regime kept at the Archives judiciaires de Québec](#) Volume 2
3. [Inventory of wills, donations and inventories of the French regime kept at the Archives judiciaires de Québec](#) Volume 3

The 27 volumes of "*Inventory of the registries of the notaries of the French Regime*" is also an important book collection.

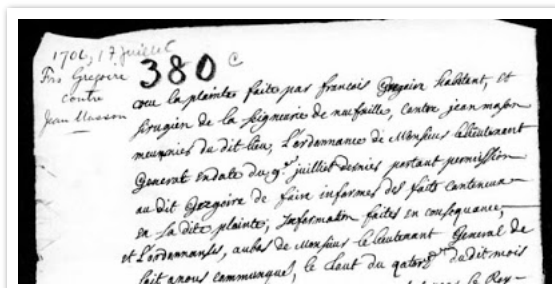
The most important collection is the Archives Textuelles which has been digitized. An important archival collection online is the "collection Pièces judiciaires et notariales".

If you have some specific information about a notarial document you are looking for you may be able to find the document here: [Archives des notaires du Québec des origines à 1937](#). Ancestry.ca also has notarial documents which are easier to search for, but I have not found everything I've been looking for there. The notarial records are very helpful because they record marriage contracts and can be used for documentation when church marriage records are missing.

I found a land transaction in a book digitized by [BANQ's](#). I wish I had seen it before visiting Quebec. I may have seen something about this land transaction before, but it slipped my mind? My ancestor Anne Greslon a widow, and her first husband owned land in the upper town of Quebec City. The land was located on the main thoroughfare of the city, on Rue Saint Louis. I stayed in a hotel on that street during my visit in August. Anne's second husband, Jean Masson, was my ancestor and he assisted her in selling this land after they married.

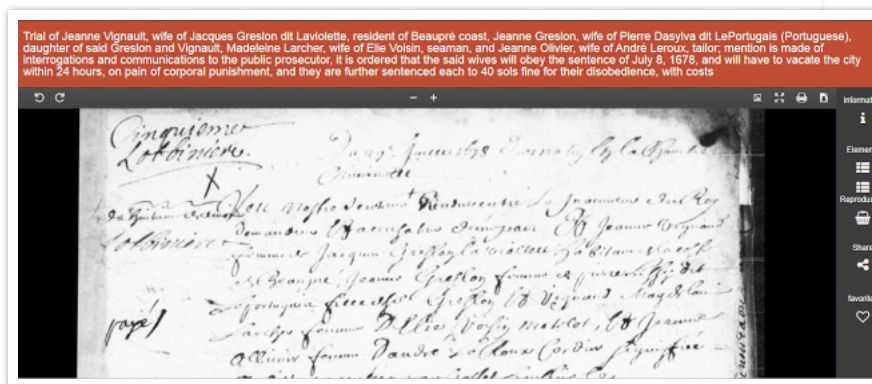


From the same records I discovered my ancestor Jean Masson worked as a miller, which seemed to be a family occupation. He had some business contract disputes with customers as recorded in these records.



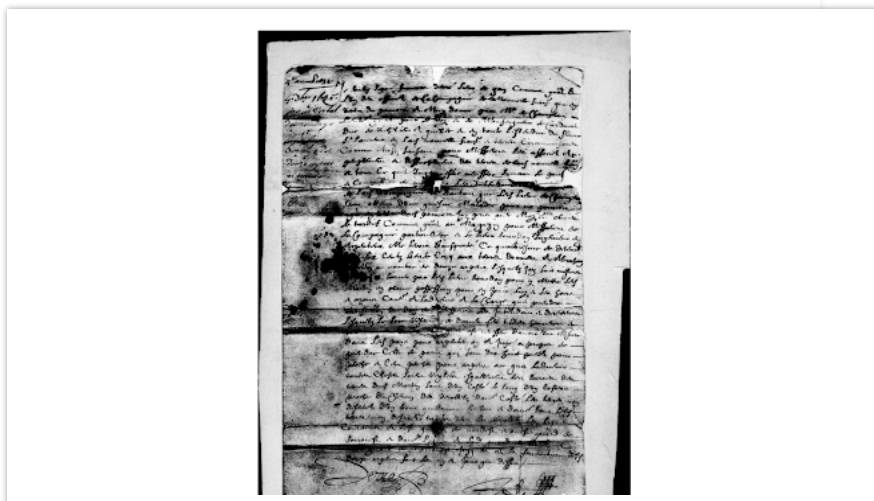
I loved touring the Chateau-Richer area, and felt pride in the fact I had an ancestral connection to that place. Little did I know at the time my own ancestors were thrown out of

that place.



Here is a bit more about the case of my ancestor Jeanne Vignault: "Trial of Jeanne Vignault, wife of Jacques Greslon dit Laviolette, resident of Beaupré coast, Jeanne Greslon, wife of Pierre Dasylya dit LePortugais (Portuguese), daughter of said Greslon and Vignault, Madeleine Larcher, wife of Elie Voisin, seaman, and Jeanne Olivier, wife of André Leroux, tailor, accused of scandal; mention is made of the interrogations of the accused, it is ordered that the said Larcher and Vignault will be questioned again, the said accused Vignault, Greslon, Larcher and Olivier are convicted of having led a bad life and causing a public scandal to the city, are condemned to leave the said city, and the name Jacques Dubord, quoted in two interrogations, is called to tell the truth" I'm not sure what this group of women did? Whatever they did these families did indeed leave the area.

I also found a land record for my ancestor Abraham Martin.

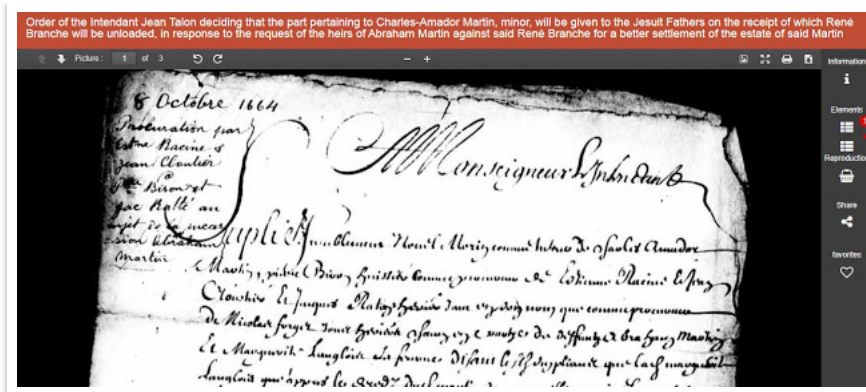


Abraham Martin is named in a court document in 1664.

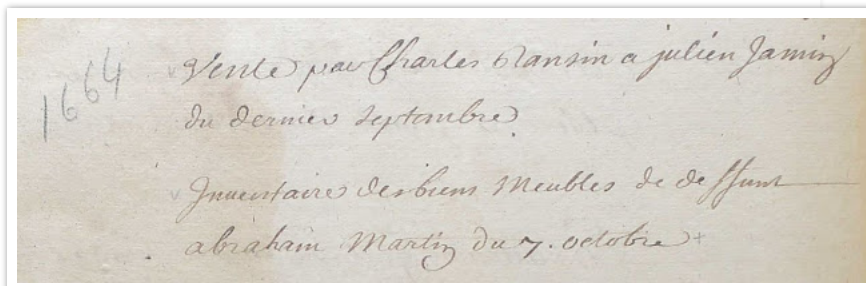


The heirs of Abraham Martin go to court over his estate in 1664.

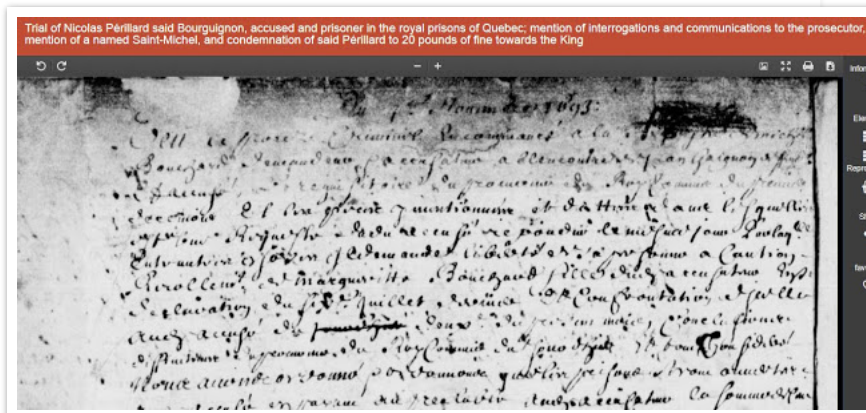




I also found a record referring to an inventory of the late Abraham Martin's movables in notarial records. The inventory was performed on 7 October 1664.

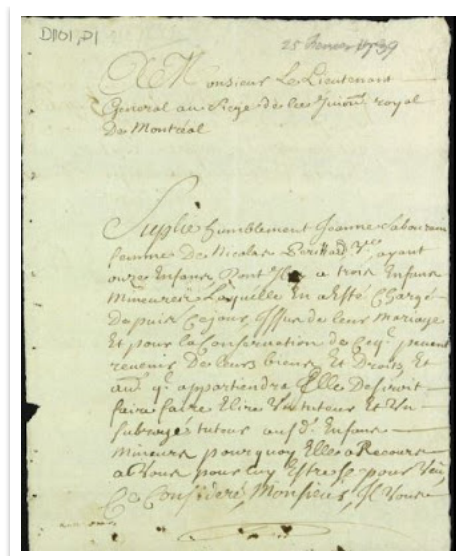


Nichols Perillard appears several times in these records. A man by that name was sent to the Royal Prisons. I'm not sure what his relationship to my family is? I believe he is related however.

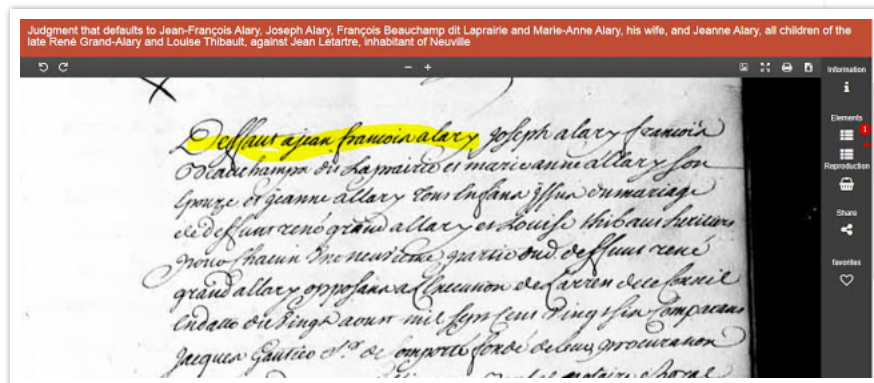


My own ancestors Nicholas Perillard and Marie Sabourin, and their family, of Montreal also appear in these records. A tutor was hired for their children which resulted in the drawing up of several documents.

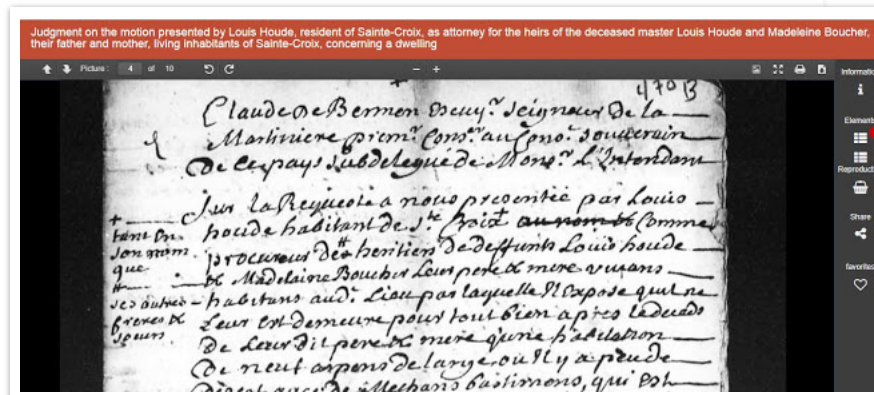




The heirs of Rene Alary and Louise Thibault were named in a court record in the Banq collection.



I have no record of birth for Marie Louise Houde who married Charles Lemay so it's nice to have additional documentation regarding her parentage from a court record generated after her parents death. The children of Louis Houde and Madeleine Boucher were listed as heirs, along with their spouses, on a document settling the family estate. I'm seeing a bit of a problem here because I have Marie Louise Lemay's death occurring in the year 1713 but this document appears to suggest she died before 1712?



pour entreprendre et adjuger au plus offrant  
 et dernier enchereur, le Commetre et Cel  
 leser les huissiers pour recevoir les Encheres  
 en dresser les proces verbaux et en faire  
 l'adjudication ci la quatrieme enchere  
 de la dite Rayneste, ensemble un dote par  
 par de bonne notaire au lieu d'adjudication  
 vingt-neuf. Guillelme d'Ornier par lequel Louis  
 Houde, Joseph, autre Louis Houde du des roches  
 d'Ornier Houde, Joseph grenier. Comme ayant  
 espouse Marie Houde Charles la may Comme  
 ayant espouse deffunte Louise Houde,  
 Guillaume Rognon Comme ayant espouse

### Genealogie Quebec

I've also used the catholic church records at [Genealogie Quebec](#). I found this site a good place to identify the children of a couple and collect their records. The ability to search by couple allowed me to more easily collect the records of siblings. I'm finding the witnesses and godparents in these records are helpful because they often include extended family members. It can be important as circumstantial evidence in cases where you are uncertain about relationships because names are spelled wrong, or dit names are used.

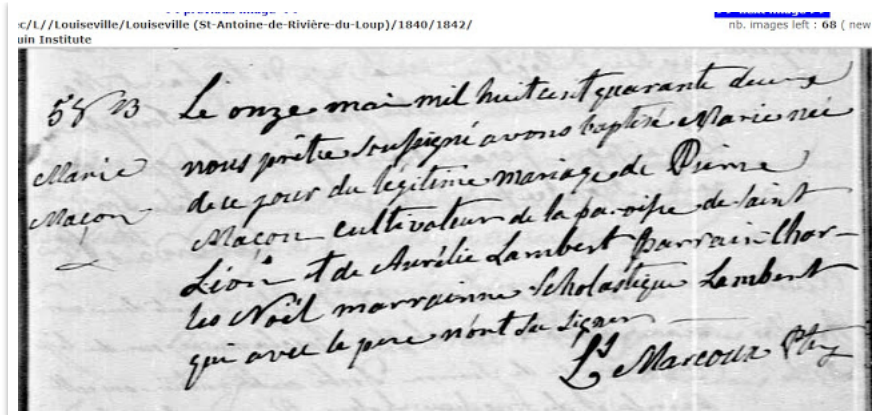
Sometimes you find famous godparents such as Samuel Champlain acting as a godparent of a relative. Abraham Martin and Marguerite Langlois's daughter Helene's godfather was Samuel Champlain.

1627  
 Le 21. Juy 1627. L'egl. Ecole St. Michel fut par le  
 Curé a l'eglise bapteme de la fille d'Abraham Martin p. Marguerite  
 Langlois. M. B. et de Gamelle. Comme p. son dit  
 frere Langlois fut marieur.

Below we see the grandfather of Marguerite Pare is her godfather. Aunts and Uncles are also often godparents.

pretre.  
 Le vingt-cinquieme jour du mois d'août du bon  
 d'ice quatre-vingt-huit; par moy sousigné prestre  
 Marguerite pare. Dictionnaire a été baptisée dans l'eglise  
 Marguerite fille de Jean Langlois et de Jeanne  
 Racine la femme née du jour precedent. Le  
 parrain a été Robert paray pere et le  
 L'exfant, et la marie Marguerite Racine  
saute et femme de Jean Gagnon, qui ont déclaré  
 ne sçavoir écrire ny signer de a juter velle  
 suivant l'ordonnance. Signe ggauchin prestre.

I noticed Scholastique was a popular name in one family. Saint Scholastica was Patroness of Benedictine women's communities; school; tests; books; reading; convulsive children; nuns; invoked against storms and rain. Scholastique Lambert was Marie Masson's godmother and aunt.



I'm adding godparents to baptismal notes using Rootsmagic.



### Familysearch.org online records for Quebec

I also often refer to the online records at [Familysearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org) when trying to find documentation for my French Canadian ancestors.

Now that I've collected up witnesses and godparents I'm much more confident regarding the accuracy of my family tree. I wondered how the PRDH was able to reconstruct families when so many of the records are so difficult to read and there are many misspellings of names, and changing dit names? After collecting up the family records I've noticed how small the population was in many communities. Recognizing surnames and families becomes easier once you've become familiar with the local surnames.

My research on my French Canadian ancestors has moved forward a great deal since my visit to Quebec in August. The trip inspired me to continue to research the records for more information about my family. I now have a better picture of the lives of my French Canadian ancestors.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to everyone!

Joyeux Noël!





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Posted by [Annette](#) at [1:09 PM](#) 1 comment: 

Friday, November 15, 2019

## Filling Out The Picture of Our Kurta Burgenland Immigrants

I began my research on my Kapple/Kappel line in 1998 when few documents were available online. The cost of requesting documents by mail was often expensive so I concentrated on my direct line only. Now that many documents are online and can be found free of charge at [Familysearch.org](#) I'm able to gather information on my ancestor Mary/Maria Kurta-Kappel's siblings. [Ancestry.com](#) also has copies of original documents which you can access more economically, often, than requesting it from an archive or government agency.

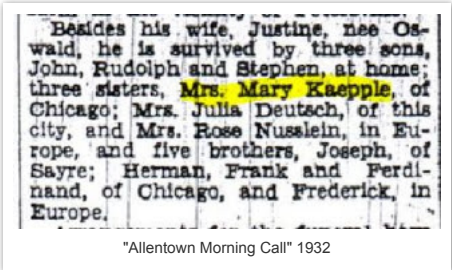
My Austrian cousins/ DNA matches have provided me with more information, which along



with affordable copies of documents, has allowed me to fill in the story of my Burgenland immigrant ancestors.

I knew my own ancestors came to American, but didn't know how many of their siblings did. My great-grandparents Frank Kappel and Maria Kurta immigrated to America in the 1890's. I collected up all the information I could find about them.

When the Ellis Island records came online I was able to find my great-grandparent's and two great-great-grandfathers Christian Koppel and Johann Kurta. According an obituary from the early 1930's all but one Kurta sibling was living in America in 1932.



With this information and that provided by my Austrian cousins I have found more documentation for the family.

**Johann Kurta father of this family was born 1 March 1852 in Inzenhof now Burgenland, Austria**

The father of the family listed above Johann Kurta visited his daughter and son-in-law in 1900. It appears he stayed at least a couple of years. He probably had the photo below taken during his visit?



On the passenger list he appears on he is said to be a smith by occupation and he names his son-in-law Frank Kepel (Kappel) as a relative living in Egypt, Pennsylvania, which was also his final destination. He sailed aboard the ship S.S. Westernland which sailed out of Antwerp, Belgium.

S.S. Westernland sailing from Antwerp, February 24 <sup>th</sup> 1900 Arriving at Port of													
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
No. on List	Name in full	Age	Sex	Married or Single	Occupation	Birthplace	Relationship	Last Residence	Report for Landing in the United States	First destination in the United States (State, City or Town)	Whether Traveling as Alien or Passenger	By whom was money paid?	Admitted to Landing (Signature of Agent)
1	Johann Kurta	48	M	Married	Smith	Inzenhof, Burgenland	Son-in-law	Frank Kepel, Egypt, Pa.	✓	no	self	✓	✓
2	Nicholas Jura	44	M	"	"	"	"	"	✓	Chambers, Pa.	"	"	✓
3	Siggy Hugel	45	M	"	"	"	"	"	✓	"	"	"	✓
4	Maria Feil	28	F	Married	"	"	"	"	✓	"	"	"	✓

at Port of		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		By whom was passage paid.	Whether in possession of money, if so, how much and how received.	Whether ever before in the United States, and if so, when and where.	Whether going to join a relative; if so, what relative, their name and address.	Ever in Prison suspended by order of U.S. state writ.	Whether suffering from any disease.	Whether suffering from any disease.	Condition of Health, Mental and Physical.	Deformed or Crippled, Nature and Cause.
		self	100.00		brother-in-law Frank Kappel Brooklyn, N.Y.	no	no	no	good	no

Julia Kurta-Deutsch born 27 September 1882 in Inzenhof now Burgeland Austria

She came to America in 1899, a year after her sister and my great-grandmother immigrated to America.

She gave the address of my great-grandparents and named Frank Kappel as her brother-in-law. She arrived at the Port of New York where she would have taken a train to Allentown, Pennsylvania where she would join her sister and brother-in-law.

20	Julia Kurta	27 Sept 1882	Inzenhof, Austria		Brooklyn, N.Y.					
21	Anna Kurta	27 Sept 1882	Inzenhof, Austria		Brooklyn, N.Y.					
22	Anna Kurta	27 Sept 1882	Inzenhof, Austria		Brooklyn, N.Y.					
23	Anna Kurta	27 Sept 1882	Inzenhof, Austria		Brooklyn, N.Y.					
24	Anna Kurta	27 Sept 1882	Inzenhof, Austria		Brooklyn, N.Y.					
25	Anna Kurta	27 Sept 1882	Inzenhof, Austria		Brooklyn, N.Y.					
26	Anna Kurta	27 Sept 1882	Inzenhof, Austria		Brooklyn, N.Y.					

She married in 1902. She was a minor and her father Johann gave her his permission to marry. Julia's occupation was Cigar Marker and her husband Andrew Deutsch was a wire worker.

MARRIAGE LICENSE DOCKET OF LEHIGH COUNTY, PA.

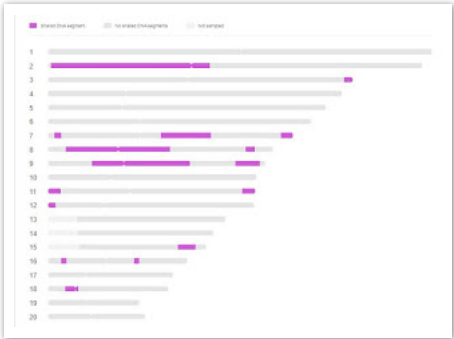
APPLICATION FOR MARRIAGE LICENSE

*Julia Kurta* and *Andrew Deutsch* (No. 11194)

1. Age of bride and groom: *19 years*  
2. Age of bride: *19 years*  
3. Age of groom: *21 years*  
4. Date of license: *Sept 10, 1902*  
5. Date of marriage: *Sept 10, 1902*  
6. Place of marriage: *Allentown, Pa.*  
7. Name of bride: *Julia Kurta*  
8. Name of groom: *Andrew Deutsch*  
9. Name of father of bride: *Johann Kurta*  
10. Name of mother of bride: *Anna Kurta*  
11. Name of father of groom: *John Deutsch*  
12. Name of mother of groom: *Maria Deutsch*  
13. Name of bride's home: *Brooklyn, N.Y.*  
14. Name of groom's home: *Brooklyn, N.Y.*  
15. Name of bride's occupation: *Cigar Marker*  
16. Name of groom's occupation: *Wire Worker*  
17. Name of bride's parents: *Johann Kurta, Anna Kurta*  
18. Name of groom's parents: *John Deutsch, Maria Deutsch*  
19. Name of bride's birthplace: *Inzenhof, Austria*  
20. Name of groom's birthplace: *Inzenhof, Austria*  
21. Name of bride's date of birth: *Sept 27, 1882*  
22. Name of groom's date of birth: *Sept 10, 1881*  
23. Name of bride's date of marriage: *Sept 10, 1902*  
24. Name of groom's date of marriage: *Sept 10, 1902*  
25. Name of bride's date of death: *None*  
26. Name of groom's date of death: *None*  
27. Name of bride's date of death: *None*  
28. Name of groom's date of death: *None*  
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96. Name of groom's date of death: *None*  
97. Name of bride's date of death: *None*  
98. Name of groom's date of death: *None*  
99. Name of bride's date of death: *None*  
100. Name of groom's date of death: *None*

Rosina/Rose/Rozalia Kurta- Nüsslein was born 8 February 1885 in Inzenhof now Burgenland, Austria.

My aunt Loretta and I match the Kurta/Nüsslein family of Austria at FamilyTree DNA and MyHeritage. Rose (Rosina) Kurta/Nüsslein was the sister of my ancestor Maria Kurta/Kappel.



Filling in Rosina's story begins with her immigration to America through the port of New York in 1902. Maybe she came to attend her sister Julia's wedding?

Instead of naming her sister or brother-in-law as relatives she named her father Johann Kurta who she said was living in McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania (I had a great deal of difficulty deciphering the name of that place) . The woman listed above her gave my great-grandmother's name as a relative. Maria's address was the same as her father Johann.

[illegible]

*[Handwritten notes on graph paper, mostly illegible due to cursive script.]*

She stayed on in Pennsylvania where she apparently met her husband George Nüsslein who she married in 1904 in Butler, Pennsylvania. Rosina's occupation was said to be housekeeper and her husband George was a baker.

[illegible]

I didn't know the marriage photos her descendant shared with me were taken in Pennsylvania. I had assumed she married in Austria.

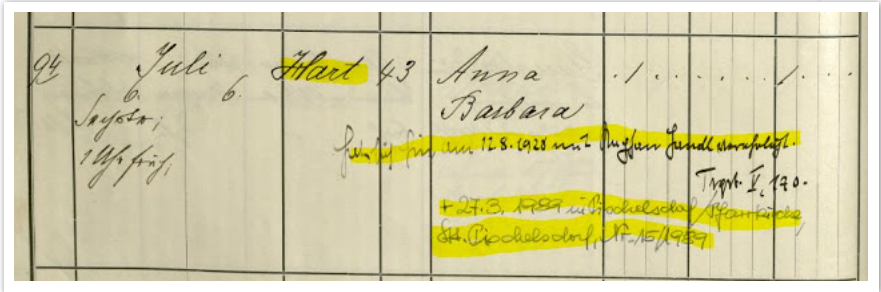
Another photo of Rosina should have been a clue that she married in America because she

is wearing light colored modern clothing which wouldn't have been worn in Inzenhof where adult women wore dark colors. The photo below is part of the set taken for her wedding in 1904.



The Nüsslein decided to return to Europe around 1907 when they purchased a farm in Hart, Pischelsdorf, Austria where they remained for the rest of their lives.

Anna Barbara Nüsslein was born 6 July 1909 in Hart, Austria (my grandfather Rudolph Christian Kapple was born in April 1909, also in Hart, Austria). Anna married into the Jandl family. A Jandl cousin, Anna's son is a 2nd cousin match for my aunt Loretta on the atDNA at Family Tree DNA and MyHeritage.



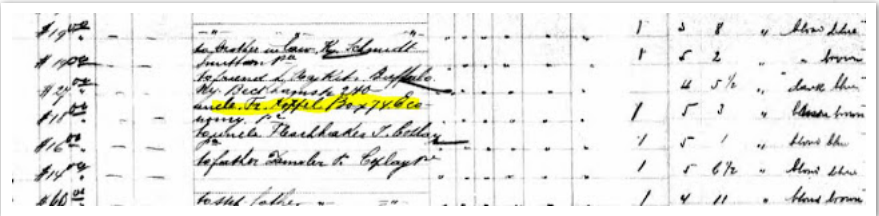
**The sons came later**

The Kurta daughters came to America first. Possibly they came to find a husband, because all 3 of them married in America. With so much out migration from what is today Burgenland it was likely to be difficult to find young men to marry as they were coming to America to work.

The sons of Johann Kurta and Anna Jost were younger than their daughters (with the exception of Stephen who probably stayed in Austria). These boys didn't come to America until they were thought to be old enough to travel alone. They remained in Inzenhof with their mother Anna Kurta nee Jost when their father spent time in America.

**John Kurta was born 27th June 1889 in Inzenhof now Burgenland, Austria**

John Kurta came to America in 1907. He gives the address of his brother-in-law Frank Kappel and misidentifies him as his uncle.





4. Anton Durbad	35	11	1/2	yes	industrial	for	immigrant	alien	yes	self
5. Rosa Wagack	28	11	1/2	none	yes	house	immigrant	alien	yes	self
6. Frank Boyer	25	11	1/2	none	yes	house	immigrant	alien	yes	self
7. George Sommer	25	11	1/2	none	yes	house	immigrant	alien	yes	self
8. Emily Farnad	11	11	1/2	none	yes	house	immigrant	alien	yes	self
9. Michael Roth	24	11	1/2	none	yes	house	immigrant	alien	yes	self
10. Johann Kurta	11	11	1/2	none	yes	house	immigrant	alien	yes	self
11. Alvin Winder	24	11	1/2	none	yes	house	immigrant	alien	yes	self
12. Frank Darnel	24	11	1/2	none	yes	house	immigrant	alien	yes	self
13. Rudolf Winder	15	11	1/2	none	yes	house	immigrant	alien	yes	self

Johann Kurta Jr. filed his declaration of intention to become a United States Citizen in 1909. The ship he arrived on seems to be misidentified as Vaterland, the ship his sister and brother took in 1910. The actual passenger list appears to say Zeeland.

We learn more about Johann/John from his Declaration of Intention for naturalization. His hair is said to have been blond his eyes brown, and he is 5'6 in height. He worked as a brewer. A profession that would end when prohibition was instituted in 1920.

No. 2145 ORIGINAL 245

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**  
 Department of Commerce and Labor  
 BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION  
 DIVISION OF NATURALIZATION

**DECLARATION OF INTENTION**  
 (Invalid for all purposes seven years after the date hereof)

I, Johann Kurta, aged 19 years,  
 occupation Brewer, do declare on oath that my personal  
 description is: Color white, complexion fair, height 5 feet 6 inches,  
 weight 136 pounds, color of hair blonde, color of eyes brown,  
 other visible distinctive marks none.  
 I was born in Ingenliof,  
Austria, on the 28 day of JUNE, anno  
 Domini 1889; I now reside at Economy, Pa.  
 I emigrated to the United States of America from Austria  
 on the vessel Vaterland; my last  
 foreign residence was Ingenliof, Austria.  
 It is my bona fide intention to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign  
 prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, and particularly to FRANCIS JOSEPH, EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA,  
 of which I am now a subject; I  
 arrived at the port of NEW YORK, in the  
 State NEW YORK, Territory of NEW YORK, on or about the 28 day  
 of February, anno Domini 1909; I am not an anarchist; I am not a

According to Johann's WWI Draft registration he was working as a brewer at the Northampton Brewing Company. He says he has a wife and two children to support when he registers for the draft in 1917. He was married to a Justina Oswald. I have not been able to find a marriage record of this couple.

Form 1		2467 REGISTRATION CARD		No. 367	
1	Name as listed	John Kurta		No. 28	
2	Place of birth	Békéscsaba, Northampton Co.		Country Hungary	
3	Date of birth	June 28 1889			
4	How born (1) at home, (2) in hospital, (3) in prison, (4) in barracks, (5) in foreign country	at home			
5	Education (1) school, (2) college, (3) university, (4) other	Ensignhoff Hungary			
6	Place of residence	Hungary			
7	Place of employment	Brewer		No. 11	
8	Where employed (1) at home, (2) in hospital, (3) in prison, (4) in barracks, (5) in foreign country	Northampton Brewing Co.		No. 11	
9	Where employed (1) at home, (2) in hospital, (3) in prison, (4) in barracks, (5) in foreign country	Wile 2 children			
10	Married (1) yes, (2) no, (3) other	Married		No. 2 children	
11	Other military service (1) yes, (2) no, (3) other	No		No	
12	Do you claim exemption (1) yes, (2) no, (3) other	Yes		Support of Family	
		I affirm that I have furnished all the facts and that these are true			
		John Kurta			

In 1920 John Kurta and family appear on the 1920 Census for Northampton, Pennsylvania. His former employment at the brewery likely ended with prohibition he now worked at a cement mill. I would suspect that a cement mill job was less desirable than a brewery job.

			Miller, William B	son-in-law		71	W	24	71			1	yes	yes	Pennsylvanian	4
10	224248		Zutter, John	Head	R	71	W	30	71	1908	71		yes	yes	German	5
			Yestina	Wife		71	W	30	71	1908	71		yes	yes	German	6
			John	son		71	W	5	5			No			Pennsylvanian	7
			Rudolph	son		71	W	3 1/2	5						Pennsylvanian	8
			Stephen	son		71	W	1 1/2	5						Pennsylvanian	9
4	225240		Kreutz, John	Head	R	71	W	31	71	1908	71		yes	yes	Prussian	10

5 Eisenberg <sup>1940</sup> Herman	5 Eisenberg <sup>1940</sup> Herman	400	Laborer	Common mill	W
5 Eisenberg <sup>1940</sup> Herman	5 Eisenberg <sup>1940</sup> Herman	None	None		
5 Eisenberg <sup>1940</sup> Herman	5 Eisenberg <sup>1940</sup> Herman	None	None		
5 Eisenberg <sup>1940</sup> Herman	5 Eisenberg <sup>1940</sup> Herman	None	None		
5 Eisenberg <sup>1940</sup> Herman	5 Eisenberg <sup>1940</sup> Herman	None	None		
5 Eisenberg <sup>1940</sup> Herman	5 Eisenberg <sup>1940</sup> Herman	None	None		
5 Eisenberg <sup>1940</sup> Herman	5 Eisenberg <sup>1940</sup> Herman	400	Rocky	Common mill	W
5 Eisenberg <sup>1940</sup> Herman	5 Eisenberg <sup>1940</sup> Herman	None	None		

It appears John Kurta worked his way out of the cement mill, or the depression eliminated his job? According to the US 1930 Census John Kurta now owned his own farm. This sounds like wonderful progress but the depression lowered the prices of farm produce and farmers struggled.

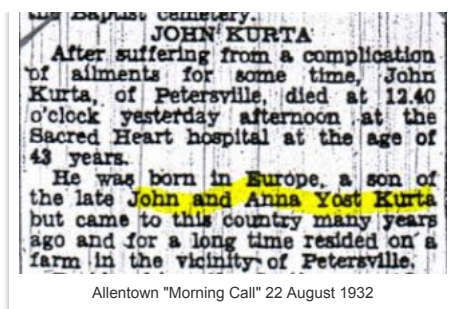
We see below that John Kurter/Kurta is listed in the 1930 Census with sons but not his wife Justina?

16/11/18	17/11/18	18/11/18	19/11/18	20/11/18	21/11/18	22/11/18	23/11/18	24/11/18	25/11/18	26/11/18	27/11/18	28/11/18	29/11/18	30/11/18	1/12/18	2/12/18	3/12/18	4/12/18	5/12/18	6/12/18	7/12/18	8/12/18	9/12/18	10/12/18	11/12/18	12/12/18	13/12/18	14/12/18	15/12/18	16/12/18	17/12/18	18/12/18	19/12/18	20/12/18	21/12/18	22/12/18	23/12/18	24/12/18	25/12/18	26/12/18	27/12/18	28/12/18	29/12/18	30/12/18	31/12/18	1/1/19	2/1/19	3/1/19	4/1/19	5/1/19	6/1/19	7/1/19	8/1/19	9/1/19	10/1/19	11/1/19	12/1/19	13/1/19	14/1/19	15/1/19	16/1/19	17/1/19	18/1/19	19/1/19	20/1/19	21/1/19	22/1/19	23/1/19	24/1/19	25/1/19	26/1/19	27/1/19	28/1/19	29/1/19	30/1/19	31/1/19	1/2/19	2/2/19	3/2/19	4/2/19	5/2/19	6/2/19	7/2/19	8/2/19	9/2/19	10/2/19	11/2/19	12/2/19	13/2/19	14/2/19	15/2/19	16/2/19	17/2/19	18/2/19	19/2/19	20/2/19	21/2/19	22/2/19	23/2/19	24/2/19	25/2/19	26/2/19	27/2/19	28/2/19	29/2/19	30/2/19	31/2/19	1/3/19	2/3/19	3/3/19	4/3/19	5/3/19	6/3/19	7/3/19	8/3/19	9/3/19	10/3/19	11/3/19	12/3/19	13/3/19	14/3/19	15/3/19	16/3/19	17/3/19	18/3/19	19/3/19	20/3/19	21/3/19	22/3/19	23/3/19	24/3/19	25/3/19	26/3/19	27/3/19	28/3/19	29/3/19	30/3/19	31/3/19	1/4/19	2/4/19	3/4/19	4/4/19	5/4/19	6/4/19	7/4/19	8/4/19	9/4/19	10/4/19	11/4/19	12/4/19	13/4/19	14/4/19	15/4/19	16/4/19	17/4/19	18/4/19	19/4/19	20/4/19	21/4/19	22/4/19	23/4/19	24/4/19	25/4/19	26/4/19	27/4/19	28/4/19	29/4/19	30/4/19	1/5/19	2/5/19	3/5/19	4/5/19	5/5/19	6/5/19	7/5/19	8/5/19	9/5/19	10/5/19	11/5/19	12/5/19	13/5/19	14/5/19	15/5/19	16/5/19	17/5/19	18/5/19	19/5/19	20/5/19	21/5/19	22/5/19	23/5/19	24/5/19	25/5/19	26/5/19	27/5/19	28/5/19	29/5/19	30/5/19	31/5/19	1/6/19	2/6/19	3/6/19	4/6/19	5/6/19	6/6/19	7/6/19	8/6/19	9/6/19	10/6/19	11/6/19	12/6/19	13/6/19	14/6/19	15/6/19	16/6/19	17/6/19	18/6/19	19/6/19	20/6/19	21/6/19	22/6/19	23/6/19	24/6/19	25/6/19	26/6/19	27/6/19	28/6/19	29/6/19	30/6/19	1/7/19	2/7/19	3/7/19	4/7/19	5/7/19	6/7/19	7/7/19	8/7/19	9/7/19	10/7/19	11/7/19	12/7/19	13/7/19	14/7/19	15/7/19	16/7/19	17/7/19	18/7/19	19/7/19	20/7/19	21/7/19	22/7/19	23/7/19	24/7/19	25/7/19	26/7/19	27/7/19	28/7/19	29/7/19	30/7/19	31/7/19	1/8/19	2/8/19	3/8/19	4/8/19	5/8/19	6/8/19	7/8/19	8/8/19	9/8/19	10/8/19	11/8/19	12/8/19	13/8/19	14/8/19	15/8/19	16/8/19	17/8/19	18/8/19	19/8/19	20/8/19	21/8/19	22/8/19	23/8/19	24/8/19	25/8/19	26/8/19	27/8/19	28/8/19	29/8/19	30/8/19	31/8/19	1/9/19	2/9/19	3/9/19	4/9/19	5/9/19	6/9/19	7/9/19	8/9/19	9/9/19	10/9/19	11/9/19	12/9/19	13/9/19	14/9/19	15/9/19	16/9/19	17/9/19	18/9/19	19/9/19	20/9/19	21/9/19	22/9/19	23/9/19	24/9/19	25/9/19	26/9/19	27/9/19	28/9/19	29/9/19	30/9/19	31/9/19	1/10/19	2/10/19	3/10/19	4/10/19	5/10/19	6/10/19	7/10/19	8/10/19	9/10/19	10/10/19	11/10/19	12/10/19	13/10/19	14/10/19	15/10/19	16/10/19	17/10/19	18/10/19	19/10/19	20/10/19	21/10/19	22/10/19	23/10/19	24/10/19	25/10/19	26/10/19	27/10/19	28/10/19	29/10/19	30/10/19	31/10/19	1/11/19	2/11/19	3/11/19	4/11/19	5/11/19	6/11/19	7/11/19	8/11/19	9/11/19	10/11/19	11/11/19	12/11/19	13/11/19	14/11/19	15/11/19	16/11/19	17/11/19	18/11/19	19/11/19	20/11/19	21/11/19	22/11/19	23/11/19	24/11/19	25/11/19	26/11/19	27/11/19	28/11/19	29/11/19	30/11/19	31/11/19	1/12/19	2/12/19	3/12/19	4/12/19	5/12/19	6/12/19	7/12/19	8/12/19	9/12/19	10/12/19	11/12/19	12/12/19	13/12/19	14/12/19	15/12/19	16/12/19	17/12/19	18/12/19	19/12/19	20/12/19	21/12/19	22/12/19	23/12/19	24/12/19	25/12/19	26/12/19	27/12/19	28/12/19	29/12/19	30/12/19	31/12/19
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Justina/Gustina was an inmate in the Allentown State Insane Asylum in 1930. Some immigrants to the United States from different cultures had difficulty adjusting to life here. Cultural differences, coupled with financial uncertainty, drove some to insanity.

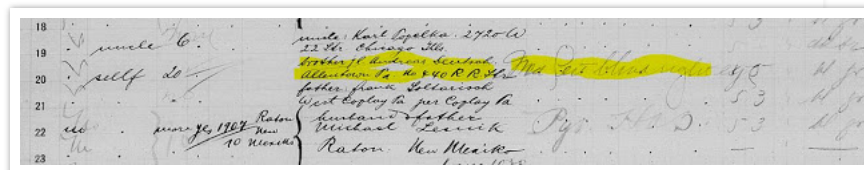
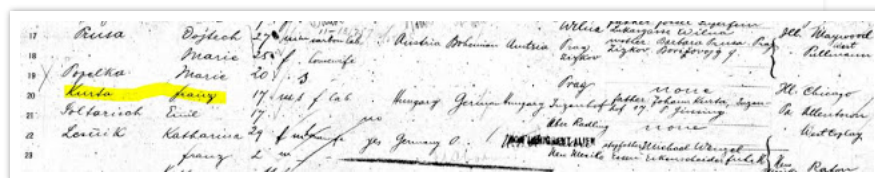
[illegible]

The stress of upended careers, a wife in an asylum, and left to raise his children alone appears to have caused John's health to suffer. He died on 21 August 1932 at the young age of 43. He died of TB which was often caused by poverty, and a weak immune system.



**Frank Kurta was born 1 May 1884 in Inzenhof now Burgenland, Austria**

Frank Kurta came to America in 1910 on the same ship, Vaterland, as his sister who was returning to America from a visit to Austria. This passenger list states Frank was blind in one eye. He came with an MD's Certificate which stated his disability.



I have not found a marriage record for Frank Kurta. He was still single when he registered for the WWI draft in 1917. Here we find his birth information confirmed. He is living in Chicago and working for McAvoy Brewery as a bottler. He is described as medium height and complexion, with light brown eyes and hair.

REGISTRATION CARD		REGISTRAR'S REPORT	
Name in full	Frank <del>Kurtz</del> <i>Kurtz</i>	1 Tell number or other identity of person reported	<i>Medicine</i>
Home address	5038 <del>Loomis</del> <i>Loomis</i> <i>Chicago, Ill.</i>	2 Color of hair	<i>Light brown</i>
Date of birth	<i>May 1</i> <i>1894</i>	3 How many has she had, but not both	<i>2</i>
Is your (1) a natural born citizen, (2) an alien, (3) or have you declared your intention to become such?	<i>Declaration</i>	4 I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have explained his statements, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:	
Where was he born?	<i>Germany</i>		
For a number of what nature of business about?	<i>Business</i>		
Is he married, or other?	<i>Married in Brewery</i>		
Is he employed?	<i>Millwork</i>		
Where employed?	<i>23 + 46 So. Park Ave.</i>		
How many is he has, neither, with child under 12, or a son or brother under 18, wholly dependent on you for support (specify which)?	<i>2</i>		
Maintain or attempt to maintain?	<i>Single</i>		
What military service have you had? Name	<i>Concannon</i>		
Is the civil description true?	<i>No</i>		
I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.			
<i>Frank Kurtz</i>			

One reason why I can't find much about Frank could be that he fell on hard times after the McAvoy brewery closed down in 1920 when prohibition was enforced.

**Joseph Kurta was born 7 March 1887 in Inzenhof now Burgenland, Austria**

Joseph Kurta came to America in 1905 with his sister Maria. He gave the address and named his brother-in-law Frank Kappel as the person he was joining in America, and of course Maria named Frank as her husband.



Required by the regulations of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor of the United States, under Act of Congress approved March 3, 1903

Office of any vessel having such passengers on board upon arrival at a port in  
S. S. *Harbor, Wilkes-Barre* sailing from *Chesapeake* *Feb 14*, 1905 Arriving at Port

No. on List	NAME IN FULL	Age	Sex	Married or Single	Calling or Occupation	Place of Birth	Nationality	Place or People	Last Residence	Final Destination	Whether having a ticket to such destination	By whom passage paid?	Whether in possession of \$50 and if not, how much?	Whether or not a student of medicine or science	Whether or not a student of medicine or science
1	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
2	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
3	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
4	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
5	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
6	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
7	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
8	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
9	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>

or of the United States, under Act of Congress approved March 3, 1903, to be delivered to the U.S. Immigration Officer by the Commanding Officer of any vessel having such passengers on board upon arrival at a port in the United States

g from *Chesapeake* *Feb 14*, 1905 Arriving at Port of *New York* *Feb 20*, 1905

No. on List	NAME IN FULL	Age	Sex	Married or Single	Calling or Occupation	Place of Birth	Nationality	Place or People	Last Residence	Final Destination	Whether having a ticket to such destination	By whom passage paid?	Whether in possession of \$50 and if not, how much?	Whether or not a student of medicine or science	Whether or not a student of medicine or science
1	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
2	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
3	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
4	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
5	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
6	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
7	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
8	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
9	<i>Charles Brunner</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Blacksmith</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Am.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Lehigh County, Pa.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>

I haven't been able to find much out about Joseph Kurta.

He married a Cecilia Brunner on 6 Feb 1915 in Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. Cecilia like her sister-in-law Julia Kurta-Deutsch worked as a cigar marker which may be how her brother met Cecilia? The marriage record also confirms that Joseph's father was a blacksmith.

STATEMENT OF MALE

Full name and surname *Joseph Kurta* Color *White* Occupation *Blacksmith*  
Birthplace *Lehigh County, Pa.* Residence *Lehigh County, Pa.*  
Age *24* years. Previous marriage or marriages *None* date of death or divorce of former wife or wife *None*  
Name and surname of father *John Kurta* of mother *Cecilia Brunner*  
Maiden name of mother *Cecilia Brunner* Birthplace of father *Lehigh County, Pa.*  
Color of father *White* of mother *White* Birthplace of mother *Lehigh County, Pa.*  
Is applicant an invalid, epileptic of unsound mind or under guardianship as a person of unsound mind or under the influence of any intoxicating liquor or narcotic drug? *None* Has applicant within five years been an inmate of any county asylum or house for indigent persons? *None* Is applicant physically able to support a family? *Yes*  
Name of parents or guardian who give consent *John Kurta*

STATEMENT OF FEMALE

Full name and surname *Cecilia Brunner* Color *White* Occupation *Blacksmith*  
Birthplace *Lehigh County, Pa.* Residence *Lehigh County, Pa.*  
Age *24* years. Previous marriage or marriages *None* date of death or divorce of former husband or husband *None*  
Name and surname of father *John Kurta* of mother *Cecilia Brunner*  
Maiden name of mother *Cecilia Brunner* Birthplace of father *Lehigh County, Pa.*  
Color of father *White* of mother *White* Birthplace of mother *Lehigh County, Pa.*  
Is applicant an invalid, epileptic of unsound mind or under guardianship as a person of unsound mind or under the influence of any intoxicating liquor or narcotic drug? *None* Has applicant within five years been an inmate of any county asylum or house for indigent persons? *None* Is applicant physically able to support a family? *Yes*  
Name of parents or guardian who give consent *John Kurta*

Signed and subscribed to before me this *6* day of *Feb* A.D. 1905,  
*Lawrence A. Schreffler, D. of Notary*

I also found Joseph living in Sayre, Pennsylvania on the 1930 Census the same place he was said to be living in the obituary of his brother John Kurta. He was a laborer on the steam railroad. He said he was still married but he was not living with his wife, instead he was living in a boarding house.



Registration of Conscription of the United States  
FIFTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1950  
POPULATION SCHEDULE

Serial Number: 2423  
Name: Joseph Kurta  
Date of Birth: 5-5-23  
Place of Birth: Austria  
Place of Residence: 347 N. Jordan St., Allentown, Lehigh Co., Pa.

When Joseph Kurta registers for the draft during WWII he does not mention his wife but instead gives the name of his sister Julia Kurta-Deutsch. A description of him states he is 5'5" in height and weighs 180 pounds. He has brown hair and blue eyes. He no longer works for the steam railroad. He has scars on his left thumb which perhaps he got while working for the railroad?

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after April 28, 1917 and on or before February 16, 1918)

SERIAL NUMBER: 2423  
NAME: Joseph Kurta  
DATE OF BIRTH: 5-5-23  
PLACE OF BIRTH: Austria  
PLACE OF RESIDENCE: 347 N. Jordan St., Allentown, Lehigh Co., Pa.

1. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON TO WHOM YOU WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS  
Mrs. Julia Deutsch, 347 N. Jordan St., Allentown, Pa.

2. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS  
Unemployed

3. PLACE OF RESIDENCE OR ADDRESS  
347 N. Jordan St., Allentown, Pa.

4. SIGNATURE OF REGISTRANT  
Joseph P. Kurta

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT

RACE	HEIGHT (Inches)	WEIGHT (Pounds)	COMPLEXION
White	5'5"	180	Light
EYES	HAIR		
Blue	Brown		
Gray	Red		
Brown	Black		
Black	Gray		
Black	Black		

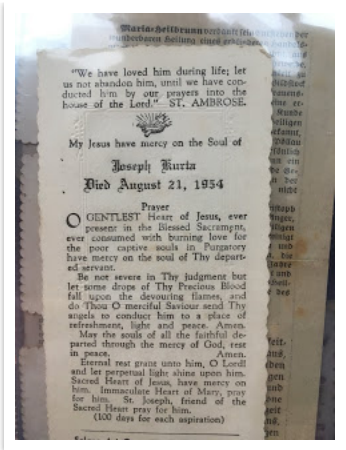
Other obvious physical characteristics that will aid in identification:  
Scars on Left Thumb

I certify that my answers are true; that the person registered has read or has had read to him his own answers; that I have explained his obligations as such and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

Signature of Registrar: Ruthen P. Lawrence  
Date of registration: April 27, 1952

LOCAL BOARD NO. 8  
PAYETTE COUNTY  
UNIONTOWN, PENNA.  
STAMP OF LOCAL BOARD

Joseph Kurta died 23 August 1954. The prayer card for Joseph Kurta is still in the possession of the descendants of Rosina Kurta-Nuesslein's family in Austria.



Herman Kurta was born 24th of July in 1891 in Inzenhof now in Burgenland, Austria  
He came to America 1910 through the port of New York.



Herman was naturalized in 1915.

K - 300	
Name (Kurta)	Herman
Address 1432 W. 49th Pl	Chgo, Ill. 2
Certificate no. (for vol. and page) P-17293	Title and location of court Superior Court, Cook Co., Ill.
Country of birth or allegiance Hungary	When born (in age) 7-26-1891
Date and port of arrival in U. S. 2-24-1910 X	Date of naturalization 10-11-1915
Name and address of witnesses Joseph A. Hoffman Eliasius Lussing	5620 S. Winchester Ave 1666 Burling St

U. S. Department of Labor, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Form No. 1-IP.

Herman Kurta married Anna Zatler 15th of May 1915 in Cook County, Illinois.



Herman Kurta registered for the draft during WWI and named his wife and child Arthur as dependants. His occupation was driving a milk wagon.

Form 1 6347

REGISTRATION CARD 33864

1 Name in full: Herman Kurta Sex: M Age: 26

2 Date of birth: July 28 1891

3 Date of birth: July 28 1891

4 Place of birth: Chicago, Ill.

5 Where born: Chicago, Ill.

6 If not a citizen, at what country are you a citizen or subject? Poland

7 What is your present occupation? North Western Diner

8 Where employed? W.D. Nabash and

9 Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 18, or a sister or brother under 18, wholly dependent on you for support? (specify which?) Wife and child

10 Married or single (specify which?) Married

11 What military service have you had? Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

12 Do you desire naturalization? Yes

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

1 Tell whether: Medium Medium Medium Medium

2 Color of eyes: Brown Color of hair: Dark Brown

3 The person last gave the blood test on July \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_, or on the following specified (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

Jacob Wagner  
Registrar

18. July 29  
City or County: Chicago State: Ill.

June 5, 1917  
(Date of registration)

12-1-31-A

In 1920, according to the US Census, he was working in the car shop for a railroad car manufacturer, and living with Anna his wife and Arthur his son. My great-uncle Steve Kappel was also living in his Uncle's household also working for the same railroad car manufacturer; likely the company his father worked for Pullman.

41	<u>Kurta Herman</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>3 R.</u>	<u>M. W. 28</u>	<u>M. 1910</u>	<u>Ma 1916</u>
	<u>Anna</u>	<u>Wife</u>		<u>F. W. 23</u>	<u>M. 1909</u>	<u>N.W.</u>
	<u>Arthur</u>	<u>Son</u>		<u>M. W. 3</u>	<u>S.</u>	
	<u>Reebel Steve</u>	<u>Nephew</u>		<u>M. W. 22</u>	<u>S.</u>	

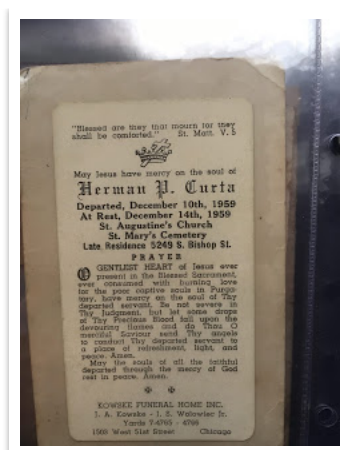
<u>Iron worker</u>	<u>Car Shop</u>	<u>W.</u>	<u>73</u>
<u>none</u>			<u>74</u>
<u>none</u>			<u>75</u>
<u>none</u>			<u>76</u>
<u>Machinist</u>	<u>Reebel Paul road shop</u>	<u>W.</u>	<u>77</u>

Herman Kurta had a family photo taken with himself, his wife Anna, and an unknown man who could be Steve Kappel or his brother Frank Kurta?



The changing economic climate during the Depression also resulted in a career change for Herman who was listed as working as a cook in a Diner along with his wife Anna (nicknamed Daisy) according to the 1940 Census. I'm not sure if they were owners of the Diner or they were employees there?

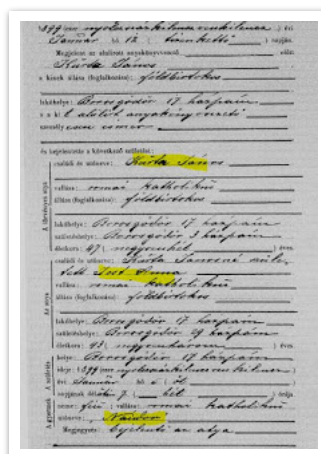
Herman P. Kurta/Curta died 10 December 1959 in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois.



## Ferdinand/Nandor Kurta born 7 January 1899 in Inzenhof now Burgenland, Austria

According to his brother John's obituary Ferdinand came to America and lived in Chicago, Illinois.

I first learned about Ferdinand from a couple of photos of him sent to me by our Austrian cousins..I didn't have any information about Ferdinand until I paged through the Rabafuzes Civil Registration records at FamilySearch.org and found his birth information.



I have found no record of him in the United States so the obituary might be in error?

The fact that Ferdinand sent a postcard from the Rose Hotel in Kormend with his photo on it to his sister, likely when he was in his teens, means he was still living in the Burgenland area during WWI. It was more difficult to immigrate to the United States during the 1920's and later.





A photo of him with a woman and child (maybe his wife and child?) was likely taken in the 1920's. The little boy has an Austrian style hat so I'm thinking this photo was taken in Austria? It's possible Ferdinand came to the United States but didn't stay?



**Brother named Brothers not named in obituary?**

Another brother named Frederick was said to be living in Europe? I haven't found a brother named Frederick in the church or Civil Registration records? I have a Vincze not named in the obituary and a Stephen. I initially found Stephen when I first began research in the church records 20 years ago. The church records on microfilm at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, UT, and the digitized records at [Familysearch.org](http://Familysearch.org), end with the 1895 church records. However the Civil Registration records, which are also digitized, pickup where those leave off.

Because the Civil records begin in 1895 I was able to find Vincze's birth record. I first learned about him because my great-uncle Joseph Kappel mentioned him on a passenger list when he returned to America in 1922 after being raised by family in Austria (which is another story, for another time). Joseph stated he had an uncle named Vincze Kurta living in Inzenhof.

[illegible]

I thought he may have been wrong about the name but Johann Kurta's death record has a Vince as the person who reported Johann's death.





These families had to weather the Great Depression. We know John Kurta didn't make it to see the end of the Depression, but other family members did and worked there way up into the middle class. It took a lot of courage for them to come to a country where they didn't speak the language, and where they faced some discrimination. They toughed it out and made it anyway, and I salute them for that.

---

Posted by [Annette](#) at [7:19 PM](#)

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)[My Pedigree Charts](#)[Research Goals](#)

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

## New Burgenland Records Research/DNA mapping



Being in lockdown (not in jail, but for COVID-19) has given me time to work on my genealogy. The new [Burgenland Church Records](#) have been very interesting to sort through. My Kappel family came from the village of Inzenhof, Burgenland, Austria. A new set of [Catholic church records](#) has now come online for Burgenland. Looking at who lived in the family village going back to the late 1600's is very interesting.

Sorting through the records there are gaps which have prevented me from actually tracing my direct lines any farther back. The early church records for Sankt Nikolaus parish, which neighbors Inzenhof, are missing. I believe some of my families were from that parish. Commonly used first names and surnames have also created a problem when it comes to tracing lines back.

Even though record gaps and common names have prevented me from extending my direct lines any further back than the late 1700's I have been able draw some conclusions. For instance the Kurta surname appears in Inzenhof in the late 1600's. The earliest instance I have found the name Kurta is in neighboring Kleinmurbisch (Kissmedves) in 1671, which is a neighboring village of Inzenhof. The first entries for Kurta families living in Inzenhof are in 1687.



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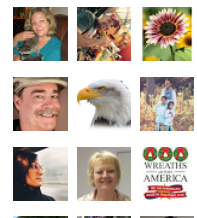
**Arlene Eakle's  
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Military Evidence  
Found in Early  
Land Claims  
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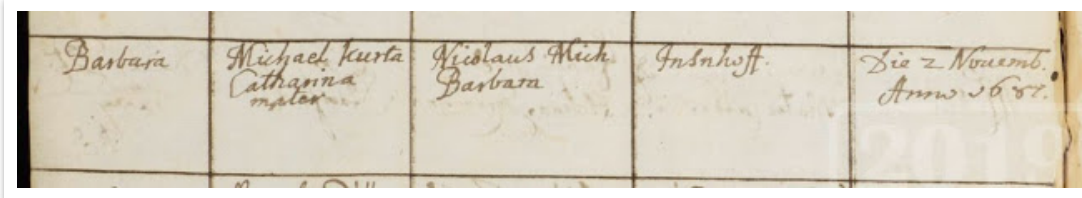
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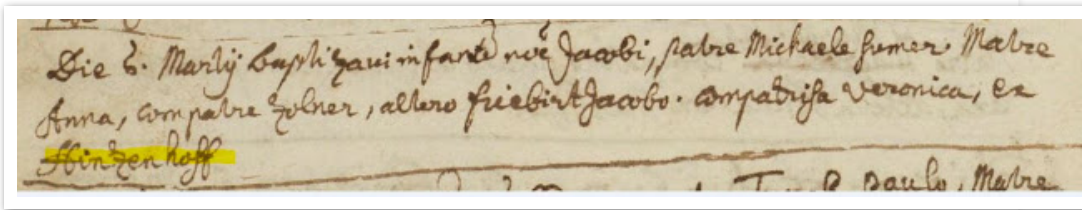




Kurtas were likely living there earlier but village names were not always recorded in the books. Since the church books only go back to the mid to late 17th century period we don't know how much earlier Kurtas settled there? I've been able to reconstruct some of the early Kurta families living in the Inzenhof area, which you see below (you can get a better view of the spreadsheet at Google Sheets).

Martin Kurta & Anna Kleinmurbisch Georgius Kurta b. 1671 Mathias Kurta b. 1676 Peter Kurta b. 1681 Anna Kurta b. 1693	Mathias Kurta & Anna Margaretha Kurta b. 1678	Andreas Kurt & Veronica Inzenhof Barbara Kurt. b. 1687	Michael Kurta & Catharina Inzenhof Barbara Kurta b. 1687		
The families below lived in Inzenhof					
Andreas Kurta & Barbara Andreas Kurta b. 1712 Maria Kurta b. 1719 Georgius Kurta b. 1721 Catharina Kurta b. 1722 Eva Kurta b. 1724 Mathias Kurta b. 1725 Anna Kurta b. 1727 Joanne Kurtha b. 1735	Michael Kurta Mathias Kurta m. 1712	George Kurta Magdalena m. 1714	George Kurta & Eva Catharina Kurta b. 1712 Barbara Kurta b. 1716 George Kurta b. 1718 Maria Kurta b. 1721 Margareta Kurta b. 1724 Adam Kurta b. 1726	Jude? Kurta & Catharina Joay? Kurta b. 1716	Joannes Kurta & Eve m. 1719 Adam Kurta b. 1726 Joanne Kurta & Elizabetha Francis Kurta b. 1738
Andreas Kurta & Anna Catharina Kurta b. 1738 Marthe? Kurta b. 1745 Eva Kurta b. 1747 Barbara Kurta b. 1751 Joannes Kurta b. 1753 Maria Kurta b. 1756	Adam Kurta & Veronica Georgius Kurta b. 1749 Joannes Kurta b. 1751 Adam Kurta b. 1753 Catharina Kurta b. 1752	Mathias Kurta & Veronica #50 Eva Kurta b. 1750 Barbara Kurta b. 1768	Joannes Kurta & Ursula Frisel married 1758 House #50 Catharina Kurta b. 1778 Maria Kurta b. 1783	Mathias Kurta & Catharina Eva Kurta b. 1772 Catharina Kurta b. 1774 Maria Kurta b. 1778 Eva Kurta? b. 1781 Barbara Kurta b. 1784	Georgius Kurta & Maria married 1758 House #59 Barbara Kurta b. 1784 Ana Maria b. 1788
Adam Kurta & Catharina Jost married 1782 House #102 Georgius Kurta b. 1787	Georgius Kurta & Barbara Maltzet married 1787 House #13 Georgius Kurta b. 1787				

The earliest records for Inzenhof are recorded under the name Hinzenhoff and can be found in the Gussing parish books. According to The Best of Burgenland site in 1327 the Inzenhof area was controlled by Count Heinz. His subjects were called Hienzen which eventually morphed into the Inzenhof village name.



I've found early entries for my family surnames Wolf and Simitz recorded as being very early residents of Inzenhof. My paternal surname Kapple/Kappel/Koppel is first recorded in 1698 for Inzenhof. I'm not sure if there were Koppels in Inzenhof before that date. There were many Koppel families within a few miles of Inzenhof, however. I do see a number of my other family surnames showing up around 1698 so maybe there was a migration to that area around that time?

Favorite Links

- Burgenland Bunch
- Learn Genetic Genealogy

Blog Archive

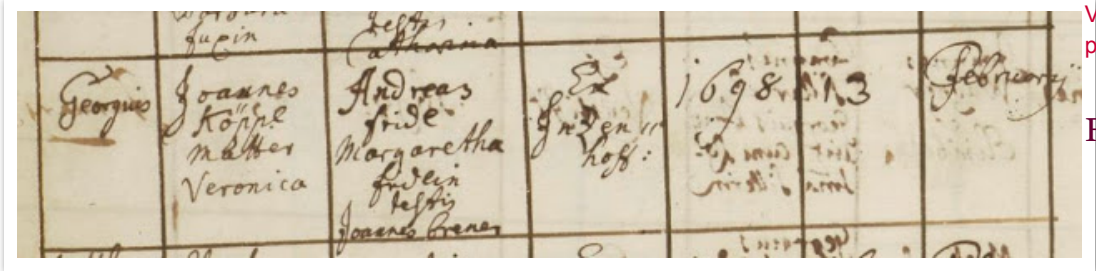
- ▼ 2020 (15)
  - ▼ November (2)
    - Did My Great-Great Uncle Thomas Mullen Come To Ame...
    - Searching Irish Election Rolls/ Plus Irish 2019 EI...
  - October (1)
  - September (2)
  - August (1)
  - July (1)
  - June (2)
  - May (1)
  - April (1)
  - March (2)
  - February (1)
  - January (1)

- 2019 (16)
- 2018 (22)
- 2017 (31)
- 2016 (24)
- 2015 (30)
- 2014 (53)
- 2013 (59)
- 2012 (76)
- 2011 (94)

About Me



Annette



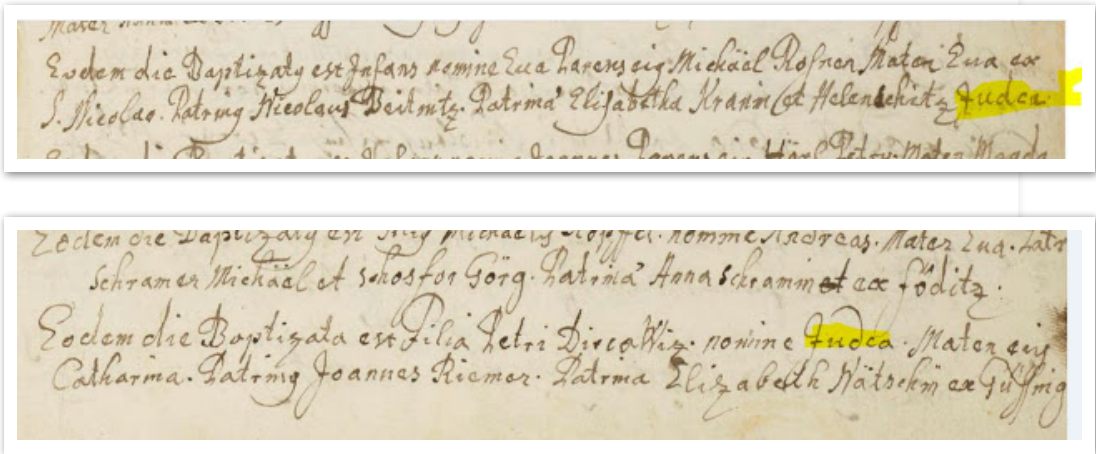
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Feedjit

I've also attempted to reconstruct Kappel/Koppel family groups using the Catholic Church records (for a better view of the spreadsheet below you can view it at [Google Sheets](#)).

Hansl Kopl and Framd?	Jory Kopl and Eva	Soffie Kopl and Catharina	Samuel? Kopl and Maria	Jorgl (George?) Kopl and Bar	Michael Kopl and Margarita	Hansl Kopl and Maria
Andreas b. 1714	Joannes Kopl 1715	Ursula Kopl b. 1715	Eva Kopl b. 1717	Yeory (George?) Kopl 1720	Andreas Kopl 1723	Maria Kopl 1724
Georgius Kopl b. 1719	Georgius Kopl 1718	Margaria Kopl b. 1718		Catharina Kopl 1722	Maria Kopl 1725	
Maria Magdalena b. 1722				Joanne Kopl 1725	Eva Kople 1726	Petrus Kopl and Barbara
Joanne Kopl b. 1726				Joanne Kopl 1725		Maria Kopl 1727
Andreas Kopl and Maria	Joanne Kopl and Barbara Kroat	Andreas Kopl & Barbara Artinger 1741	Georgius Kopl and Barbara	George Koppel and Catharina Heidl 1753	Andreas Koppel and Ursula Pult 1753	Andreas Koppel & Anna Wolf 1753
Georgius Kopl b. 1729	Stephan Keppel b. 1735	Andreas Kopl b. 1741	Michael Kepl b. 1749	Michael Koppel 1755	Michael Kopl b. 1753	Maria Koppel b. 1755
Joannes Kopl b. 1730	Barbara Keppel b. 1737	Georgius Kepl b. 1742	Barbara Kepl b. 1752	Georgius Koppel 1766	Andreas Kopl b. 1755	Barbara Koppel b. 1757
Petrus Kopl b. 1733	Paul Keppel b. 1740	Veronica Kepl b. 1745		Catharina Koppel 1773		
Andreas Kopl b. 1735	Andreas Keppel b. 1744	Joannes Kepl b. 1753		Joannes Koppel 1774		
	Margaretha Keppel b. 1748					
Joannes Koppel and Veronica Beber 1754	Georgius Koppel and Barbara Weinhofer 1754	Joannes Koppel and Judita	Michael Koppel & Veronica	Georgius Koppel and Catharina Pamer 1772	Michael Koppel and Catharina Pinter 1775	Joanne Koppel and Catharina Klu
Georgius Koppel 1755	Georgius Koppel b. 1754	Michael Kopl b. 1754	Joannes Koppel b. 1761	Catharina Koppel born 1773	Catharina Koppel b. 1776	Andreas Koppel b. 1778 illeg
Another Georgius 1757	Maria Koppel b. 1755		Catharina Koppel b. 1763	Joannes Koppel born 1774	Eva Koppel b. 1779	
	Stephen Koppel b. 1763		Michael Koppel b. 1766	Georgius Koppel born 1778	Stephen Koppel b. 1783	
	Joannes Koppel b. 1772		Georgius Koppel b. 1773		Michael Koppel b. 1785	
	Eva Koppel b. 1774		Maria Koppel b. 1778			
Stephen Koppel & Anna Frivert 1778	Georgius Koppel and Barbara Schmidt	Georgius Koppel and Barbara Kur 1779	Georgius Keppel and Catharina Orban 1781			
Andreas Koppel b. 1778	Georgius Koppel 1779	Maria Koppel 1781	Eva Koppel b. 1783			
Georgius Koppel b. 1785			Joannes Koppel b. 1784			
Joannes Koppel b. 1786			Georgius Koppel b. 1786			
			Maria Koppel b. 1790			

Many in my family believed Kappel to be a Ashkenazi surname. I have found the Koppels in Catholic Church records going back to the 1600's. If they were converts to Catholicism it would have occurred before the late 1600's. I did find mixed marriages between Lutherans and Catholics. Those marriages didn't seem uncommon. In 1600's Gussing books I found two baptismal parents described as Judea which I assume meant they were Jewish? I have not found many entries referring to Jewish parents other than the two below.



When I started doing my Burgenland research I was under the impression my family had been brought into the border area depopulated by war when the Ronok parish began keeping records in the late 1700's. Now I know the families were in the area much earlier.

DNA Segment Map

I've also had time to add DNA segments to my segment maps at Genome Mate Pro. When I first started DNA testing I had only one small segment I could trace back to my family in Burgenland. Other family members had several large segments so I wondered am I really a Kappel? A number of 2nd and 3rd cousins, and one 1st cousin once removed have now tested and I'm building a great segment map for my paternal grandparents.

The 1st cousin once removed was anonymous for a time at 23andMe and only recently decided to participate in DNA Relatives. Her grandparents were Frank Kappel and Mary Kurta-Kappel from Burgenland.

The greenish segments (on the chromosome map below) would be the ones I got from my paternal grandfather Rudolph "Boots" Kappel, and the reddish are the ones I got from my paternal grandmother Dorothy Mason-Kappel. If my grandparents were alive I would've tested them and all of my paternal chromosomes would be filled with red and green. Of course we shouldn't see red and green overlapping to any degree unless our grandparents shared common ancestors. I saw a little bit of overlap between two segments, which really means nothing. My grandparents had clearly different ethnic backgrounds. This chart will help me figure out which grandparent a match is related to if I have their segment data but not tree. My mother DNA tested so I can tell which matches are maternal or paternal. I had an aunt and some cousins test to represent my father.



### In Conclusion

I might try to reconstruct a few other surname family groups for my Burgenland family, and I will continue to try to fill my segment map with green and red segments. I figure as long as we need to stay home we might try to make some progress on our genealogy.

### Stay Safe Everyone!

Posted by **Annette** at **5:09 PM**

No comments:



Friday, March 13, 2020

## Irish Deed Records Online/ and how to use them





I didn't know that Irish Deed books were online until I watched "[A Strategic Approach to Irish Genealogy](#)", which is a free video from RootsTech 2019 London. Maurice Gleason was the presenter at this excellent session.

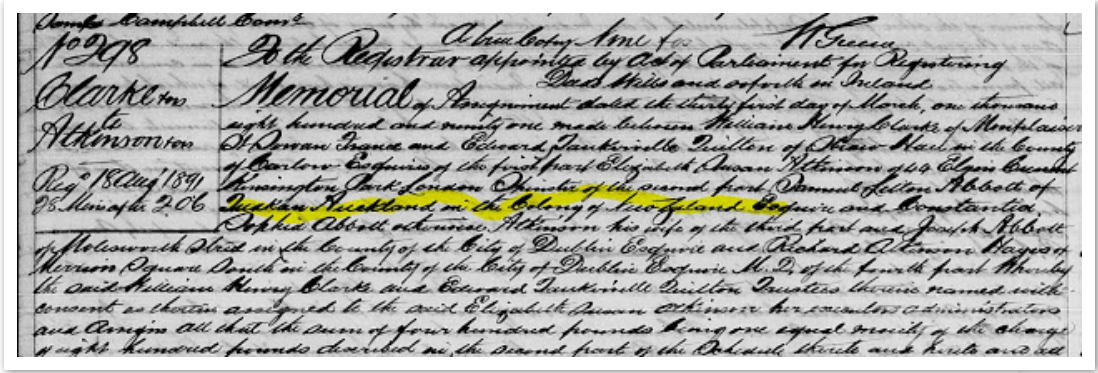
These digitized microfilms are free to use at [FamilySearch](#). The title of this series of films is "[Transcripts of memorials of deeds, conveyances and wills, 1708-1929](#)." Unlike in the United States land records were recorded by the national government in Dublin, instead of by county or town.

A little history of landownership is necessary when it comes to researching land records in Ireland. According to the encyclopedia Britannica in 1641 Irish Catholics owned 59% of the land (although Protestants already owned much of the land in Ulster). With the ascendance of Protestants to the British throne after the Glorious Revolution restrictions on landownership by Catholics resulted in a decrease in ownership with Catholics owning only 22% of the land. By 1703 they owned only 14% of the land in the country. Protestant's made up 10% of the population, but owned most of the land in Ireland.

Landownership by Catholics didn't increase significantly until the Irish National Land League was formed in Co. Mayo, where some of my own ancestors lived. A motto was "***The Land of Ireland for the people of Ireland.***" Most of the Irish were tenant farmers who paid rent to English and Scottish landowners. The league used various means to achieve the reforms they wanted including rent strikes. My own ancestor Patrick Mullen was granted ownership of his land due to an 1891 land reform.

I've found many land entries for landowners who lived in Dublin or London. Landlords were generally absentee. One document listed individuals with an interest in land in Ireland living in Auckland, New Zealand, France, and London.





The deeds books have two sets of indexes one set up by the name of the grantor. The grantor indexes are often arranged by decade. Sometimes there are several individual books covering a decade.

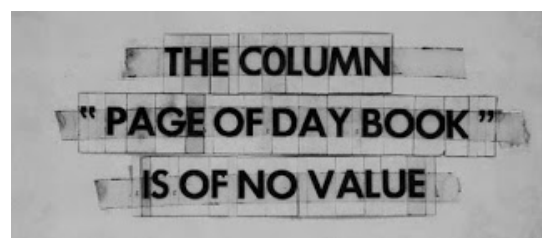
Grantor index F-L 1786-1793	Family History Library	British Film	100271	7763767	
Grantor index M-Z 1786-1793	Family History Library	British Film	100272	7763768	
Grantor index A-Z 1794-1799	Family History Library	British Film	100273	7763769	
Grantor index A-B 1800-1809	Family History Library	British Film	100274	7763770	
Grantor index C 1800-1809	Family History Library	British Film	100275	7763771	
Grantor index D-E 1800-1809	Family History Library	British Film	100276	8076387	

My favorite index is by townland. These books are called land index books. The townland being the smallest jurisdiction this is the easiest way to find land records for ancestors with common surnames, like my Mullen family. For some not living in Ireland finding ancestors townland names can be a challenge. Sometimes ancestors didn't give the townland as their place of residence, but instead named the nearest town. I was able to find my ancestors' townlands through marriage records in Ireland. If you can find your ancestors on Griffith's Valuation and the 1901 and 1911 Censuses you will also find their townlands listed there.

Land index: Donegal, Down 1840-1844	Family History Library	British Film	100532	8077426	
Land index: Dublin; Dublin city 1840-1844	Family History Library	British Film	100533	8077427	
Land index: Fermanagh, Galway 1840-1844	Family History Library	British Film	100534	8077428	
Land index: Kerry, Kildare, Kilkenny, Offaly (Kings) 1840-1844	Family History Library	British Film	100535	8077429	
Land index: Leitrim, Limerick, Londonderry, Longford, Louth 1840-1844	Family History Library	British Film	100536	8077430	

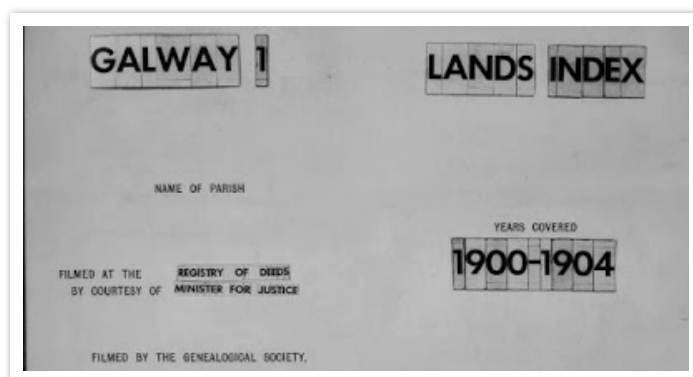
The first step in the process of researching the indexes is to decide which years you are interested in looking at because they are first organized by years. Each county/townland book generally represents around half a decade. As I said before each grantors index represents generally a full decade.

The index gives the year, book number, and page number for the deed that was copied into the ledger book (early books also give a deed number). There are also page numbers for entries in Day Books, which are not online

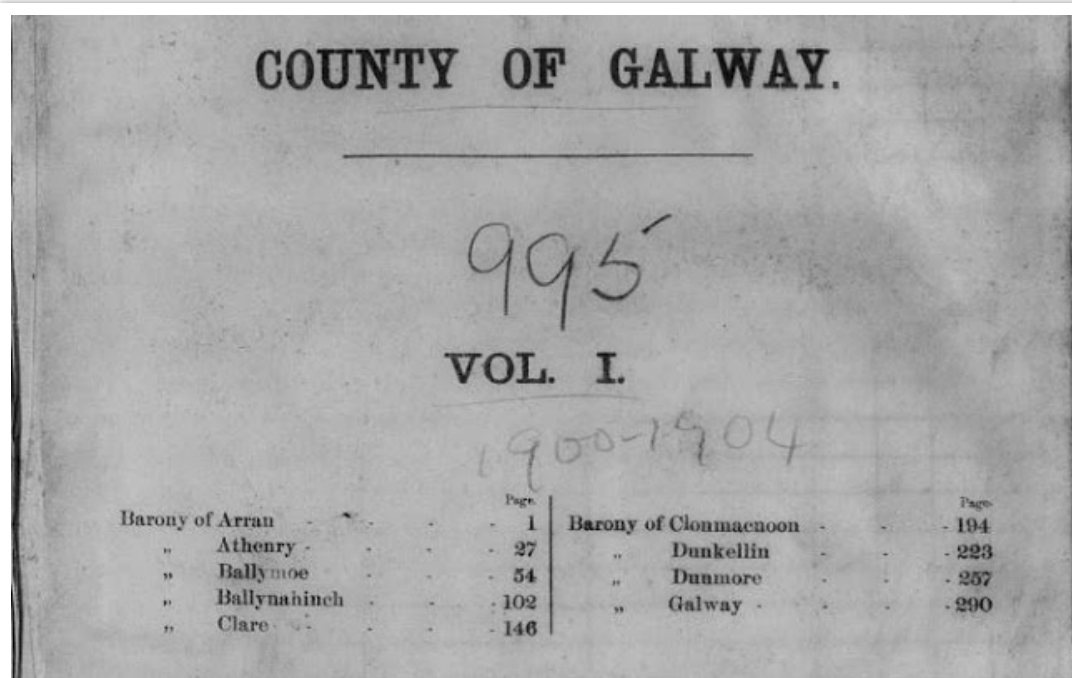


## How to search the books

Let's use Thomas Kirrane as an example. Say we knew he lived in the townland of Pollaturick in Co. Galway, and we are interested in the time period between 1900 and 1904. The first check would be for the index book covering the County of Galway for that period. Since we know the county and townland he lived in it's faster to use land indexes. And using the townland index will allow you to see all deeds filed for that place at around the same time.



Now that we are in the right place in the index we will now look for the townland. To find the townland quickly we need to know which barony our townland was located in. By Googling the townland we can generally find the barony. There is often a barony index in these index books which makes the quick location of the townlands easy.



Pollaturick in in the barony of Dunmore. This barony begins on page 257. We then go to the

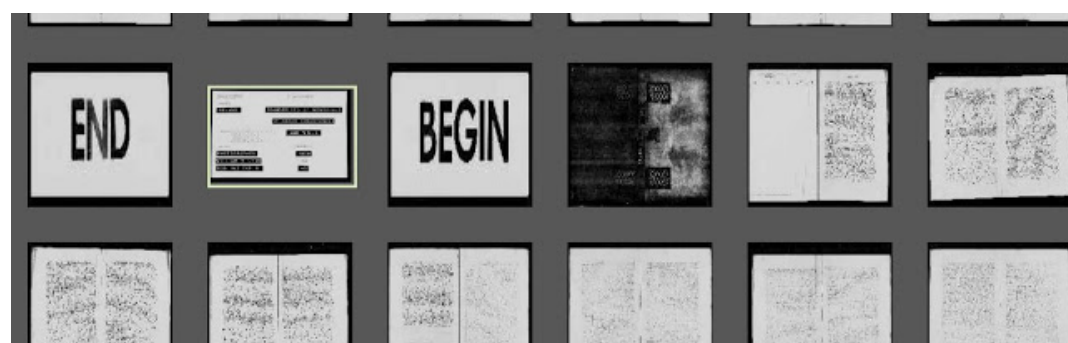
page with the P at the top for Pollaturick since the townlands are in alphabetical order.

P						
Barony of Dunmore.						
Lands.	Parish.	Grantors.	Grantees.	Year of Registry.	No. of File and Volume of Transcript and Abstract Book.	No. of Memorial and Page of Transcript Book.
Pollaturick		Kirrane Thomas		1900	45	264 1311
		Keily Mark		1900	45	268 1311
		Greany Bridget		1900	45	269 1311
		Casserly Patrick		1900	45	270 1311
		Mullen Sarah		1900	45	271 1311
		McGhegan John		1900	45	272 1311

Thomas Kirrane is at the top of the page. Next we need to go to the actual deed books. The books are first arranged by year, then by volume. We need the year 1900 volume 45. As we see below volume 45 is the second volume in the digitized microfilm.

Deeds, etc., v. 39-43 1900	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	British Film	556166	8094554	
Deeds, etc., v. 44-48 1900	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	British Film	556167	8132263	
Deeds, etc., v. 49-53 1900	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	British Film	557015	8136534	
Deeds, etc., v. 54-58 1900	<a href="#">Family History Library</a>	British Film	557016	8136533	

We scroll down to the second book which is book number 45.



In the earliest books the page numbers will match the numbered pages in the book. This format changed in later books when the page number actually is more of a document number. The early books also contain a deed number you can use to verify you have the correct entry.

In 1900 the page number refers to a specific document because the pages are not numbered.

When I locate the correct year and document for Thomas Kirrane, document 264 I run into a problem this deed is for someone else? A Michael Nally of Killarneen.

*No 264*  
*Hally*  
*Part of Regn of Title*  
*Reg. July 9 1900*  
*at 37 mins aft 10 o'c*

*A true copy thereof. T. Brennan*  
*Local Registration of Title Central Office Dublin*  
*To the Registrar appointed by Act of Parliament for registering*  
*Deeds, Wills, and so forth in Ireland.*  
*Memorial of registration pursuant to the 19<sup>th</sup> Section of the*  
*Local Registration of Title (Ireland) Act 1891 of that part of*  
*the lands of Kiltormer containing 12 2 38 statute measures or*  
*thereabouts situate in the Barony of Dunmore and County of*  
*Galway & held in fee simple in the folio No. 1625 of the Register*  
*Covership. Michael Hally of Kiltormer, Miltown, Duam, in the County of*  
*Galway farmer, is the owner of the foregoing property, subject as in said folio set*  
*forth. Certified by me this 7<sup>th</sup> day of July 1900. T. Brennan Deed Registrar of Title Seal*

When we turn the page we find Thomas Kirrane listed under No. 267. So if you can't find someone keep paging through. Looking back at the index the clerk who recorded the deed formed his 7's in such a way it looked like a 4 to me.

*No 267*  
*Kirrane*  
*Part of Regn of Title*  
*Reg. July 9 1900*  
*at 37 mins aft 10 o'c*

*A true copy thereof. T. Brennan*  
*Local Registration of Title Central Office Dublin*  
*To the Registrar appointed by Act of Parliament for registering*  
*Deeds, Wills, and so forth in Ireland.*  
*Memorial of registration pursuant to the 19<sup>th</sup> Section of the*  
*Local Registration of Title (Ireland) Act 1891 of that part of*  
*the lands of Pollaturick containing 11 0 37 and part of*  
*the lands of Curraghsarry containing 1 2 10 both statute*  
*measures or thereabouts situate in the Barony of Dunmore and County of*  
*Galway, held in fee simple in the folio No. 1625 of the Register*  
*Covership. Thomas Kirrane of Pollaturick, Miltown Duam, in the County of Galway*  
*farmer, is the owner of the foregoing property, subject as in said folio set*  
*forth. Certified by me this 7<sup>th</sup> day of July 1900. T. Brennan Deed Registrar of Title Seal*

This deed gives very exact information on when this did was registered. It was registered 9 July 1900 at 37 minutes after 10.

My ancestor Patrick Mullen's entry directed to the correct deed which was filed in 1901. His page is number 9 on the index which matches the document number on the page. In 1901 the clerk probably was a different person than in 1900. I can clearly make out his 7's.

✓ Poolbee Pollaturick	✓ Muller Bank Ltd	Blake John D	1900	65	161	1892
✓ Poolbee Pollaturick	✓ Delaney Michael	—	1901	5	4	130
✓ Poolbee Pollaturick	✓ Mullen Michael	—	1901	5	8	130
✓ Poolbee Pollaturick	✓ Mullen Patrick	—	1901	5	9	130
✓ Poolbee Pollaturick	✓ Blake John D.	National Bank Ltd	1901	6	253	189
✓ Poolbee Pollaturick	✓ Treerick John	—	1902	10	190	604

*No 9*  
*Mullen*  
*Part of Regn of Title*  
*Reg. 17 Jan 1901*  
*@ 9 min aft 10 o'c*

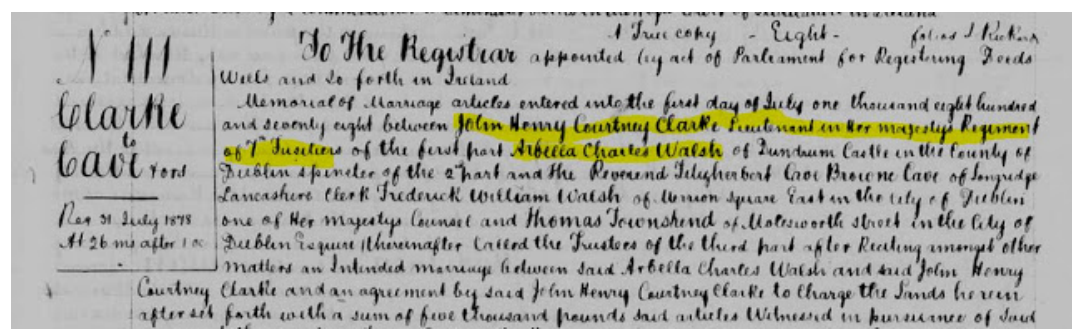
*A true copy thereof. T. Brennan*  
*Local Registration of Title Central Office Dublin*  
*To the Registrar appointed by Act of Parliament for registering*  
*Deeds, Wills, and so forth in Ireland.*  
*Memorial of registration pursuant to the 19<sup>th</sup> Section of the*  
*Local Registration of Title (Ireland) Act 1891 of that part of the lands of*  
*Pollaturick containing together 17 0 26 or thereabouts an undivided moiety of part of the lands of*  
*Curraghsarry containing 1 5 36 and an undivided moiety of part of the lands of*  
*Barony of Dunmore and County of Galway held in fee simple*  
*in the folio No. 1625 of the Register. Covership. Patrick Mullen of Pollaturick*  
*Miltown Duam, in the County of Galway farmer, is the owner of the foregoing property, subject as in said*  
*folio set forth. Certified by me this 16<sup>th</sup> day of January 1901. T. Brennan Deed Registrar of Title (Seal)*

Patrick also received his land as a result of the 1891 Registration of title act. Both Thomas Kirrane and Patrick Mullen were both tenant farmers before they received title to their lands.



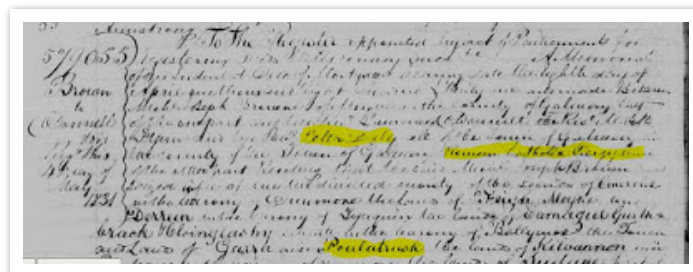
I knew Patrick Mullen's landlord was Courtney Clarke, from Griffith's Valuation, so I searched the deeds for him in hopes of finding some information on his tenants. Unfortunately my Patrick Mullen was never mentioned.

I did find a marriage related document which gave more information on Clarke himself. According to the document he was a Lieutenant in her Majesty's Regiment of Fusiliers. Also according to the document he married Arbella Charles Walsh in 1878.



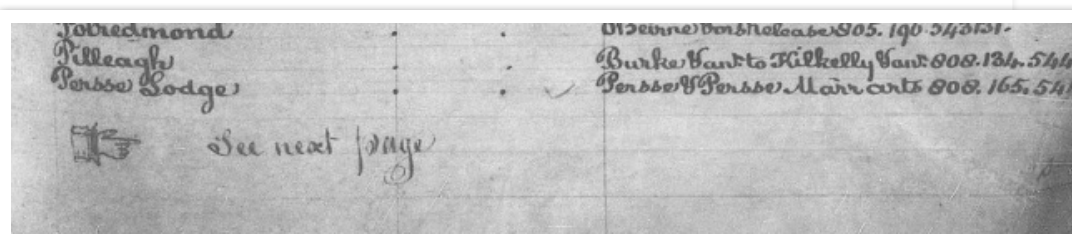
I've run across many documents relating to marriages of large scale landowners who were also landlords.

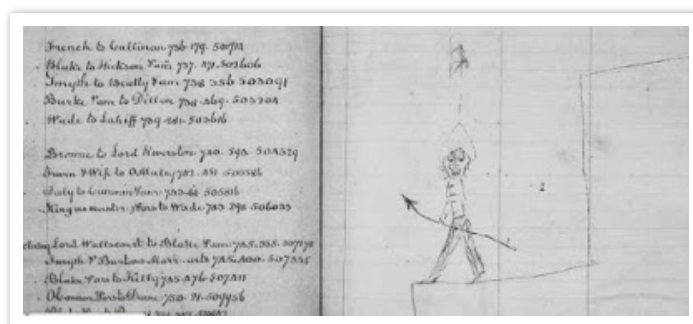
The document below gives some information on a Peter Daly who had some interest in land in Pollaturick townland Galway. The Daly family is related to my Mullen family so I decided to take a look at this document. The land index is helpful because it shows all land transactions for a townland and you can find family deeds clustered together. Some interesting information provided here is that a Peter Daly was a Catholic Priest who lived in the city of Galway. You never know what sort of information might be recorded. Often occupations are recorded.



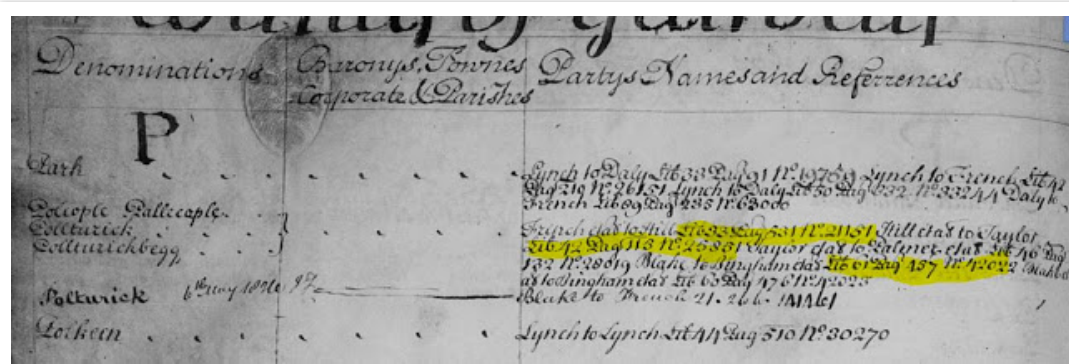
Other documents I've seen are powers of attorney, and wills. Wills were also sometimes recorded in the deed books. Before the land reforms in the late 19th Century you'll generally find mostly middle class and aristocratic families listed in the deed books. Beginning around 1880 you will see ownership beginning to change as tenants receive title to their land.

You will also sometimes find interesting markings in these books directing you to the next page or directing you to look up.





Here is an example of an early index to the deed books. We see Liber, or book number, page number, and a document number. Sometimes many books are listed together in a single paragraph like below. You just have to keep looking for libers to find all individual the books.



I'm very happy to have collect a few family deeds. I'm a little disappointed that my Huane/Huvane family did not file any deeds before 1930. Filing a deed with the registry office in Dublin wasn't mandatory.

The Registry Office in Henrietta Street in Dublin also keeps original copies of deeds. I'm thinking of trying to get original copies because they may potentially provide additional information.

I generally find more information about my family around St.Patrick's Day and this year is no exception. I guess it must have something to do with the luck of the Irish?

Have a Happy St. Patrick's Day!



Posted by **Annette** at **5:06 PM**

No comments:



Tuesday, March 3, 2020

## My Takeaways from RootsTech 2020

I didn't attend **RootsTech 2020**, but instead streamed the sessions from home during their free live-streams. This year the RootsTech conference celebrated their 10th anniversary. I've watched the live-streams at home from the very beginning.

Some very interesting new tools, and some not yet available, were introduced and demonstrations were given on how to use them.

I've spent a good deal of time, as you know if you've seen some recent posts, identifying people in old family photos. A new tool I learned about from watching a live-stream fits into my recent photo projects. **MyHeritage** now has a tool which allows you to colorize black and white photos. I colorized a photo of my mother with some Navy friends, which came out really nicely. This tool doesn't work as well on some of my much older photos though. It does help the details to pop a little more though, which may help us to see facial features a little better. Seeing features more clearly could assist in photo identification. The painting on the wall, in the photo below, is by my grandfather Charles Lynn Forgey. Nice to see the painting in color.

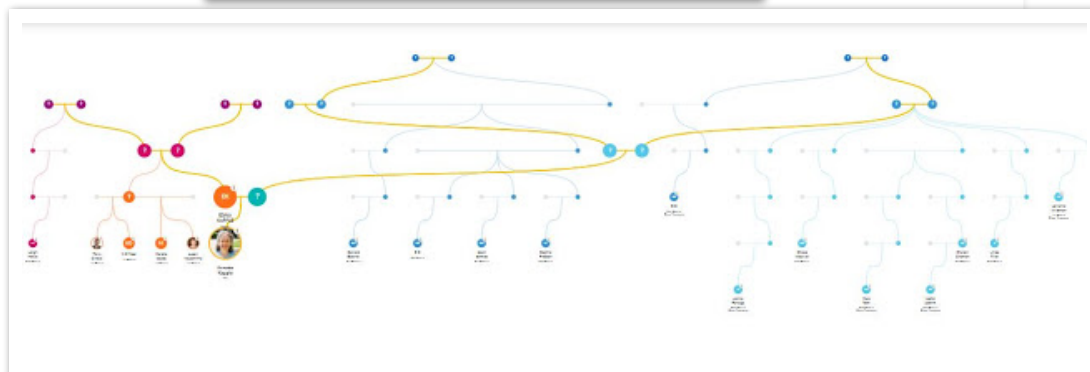
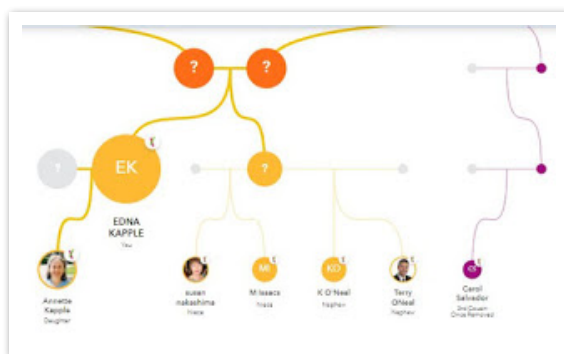


A live-stream session that was particularly interesting for me, and also directly relates what I'm currently working on, was "[German Research for the Everyday American](#)". I've been working on my Austrian family line and dealing with the difficult to read German script lately. I've been going through the newly released Burgenland, Austria Catholic church books. Karynne Moses did a wonderful job covering techniques for researching German ancestors. She briefly went over German pronunciation and showed a useful slide with the German script alphabet. Her slide of the alphabet was better than an example of the writing I've been using.

Karynne Moses also introduced me to a site with Protestant religious records in Germany. It's called [Archion](#). There is a fee to use the site. I have German ancestors who immigrated to Colonial America, and so I will likely give the site a try at some point. She also discussed the records available for Germany at [Familysearch](#), which also includes church records, and [Matricula](#) an Austrian site for church records. Of course I'm familiar with [Matricula](#) because of my obsession with the Kappel/Kurta families.

[What Are the Odds? \(WATO\)](#) was another very interesting live-streamed session. During this session Leah Larkin explained how the [WATO](#) tool from [DNA Painter](#) works. This is an autosomal DNA tool. WATO stands for what are the odds. This is a question that everyone working with atDNA is always wanting an answer to. DNA testing is all about determining our relationships to matches using the number of shared cM's as a way to estimate when we share a common ancestor. This WATO tool helps to confirm, or disprove, hypothesizes we've formed regarding our relationships to matches.

Another interesting session on DNA was presented by Angie Bush called "[Adding Branches to Your Family Tree Using DNA](#)". I learned about the beta DNA based family tree at [23andMe](#) from this session. This is similar to Thrulines at [Ancestry.com](#), and the Theory of Relativity at [MyHeritage](#), which she also explained. The [23andMe](#) tree groups matches who likely descend from a common ancestral couple in a tree format. The trees created for my mother and I correctly group matches according to family lines. Matches are definitely correctly sorted according to whether they are maternal or paternal line matches. I was busy in October 2019 when this tool was introduced so I appreciated learning about it now.





I wasn't able to watch all of the sessions live so I'm watching the archived videos as I have time. Every year I pick up new tips for research, and learn how to use new tools, this year was no exception. I look forward to what we might learn to further our research in 2021!

Posted by [Annette](#) at [2:38 PM](#) 34 comments: 

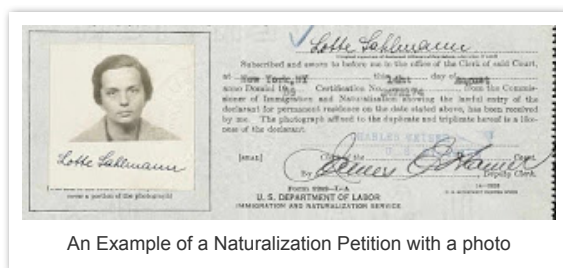
Wednesday, February 5, 2020

## Naturalization Certificate File/ And Burgenland, Austria Church Record Books

### Certificate File or C-File

When I began my research on my Kappel family line I didn't even know where the family came from? My grandmother Dorothy Mason-Kaple did some research and found out her late husband's family was from Austria. The family told her they were from Graz, Styria, Austria. I continued the research on the family beginning in 1998. I didn't order naturalization documents until the year 2000.

When I researched what I might find in the naturalization documents I was excited to discover that my great-grandmother Mary Kurta-Kappel's 1939 petition for naturalization would likely include a photo. Sadly when I received a copy of the petition from National Archives Great Lakes Region, Chicago there was no photo on it. It said no photo required. Since our family had no photo of her I was disappointed by the lack of one. These records did contain valuable information so I wasn't completely disappointed.



An Example of a Naturalization Petition with a photo

I assumed this was the end of the trail for photos from this governmental source. I was wrong. Interestingly in the year 2019 when two people came forward with long awaited photos I would discover there was a government record with my ancestor's photo. The certificate for naturalization contains a photo of the immigrant. It's contained in a certificate file (C-File) kept by [US Citizenship and Naturalization Services](#). The National Archives office I originally wrote to for information didn't have a copy of the certificate in their files.

Doing some research in 2019 I discovered I could get a copy of USCIS file. I was able to order a copy of the certificate file online, which I did in October. I didn't get copies from the file until January. The agency making the copies has to go through the documents and make redactions which I assume can result in a longer than expected wait time. Oddly you can get unredacted documents from the courts and National Archives. Many Naturalization records are unredacted and available online now at [Familysearch.org](#).



9) What were the names, occupations, and addresses of your employers during the last 5 years?

Jacob T. Wiens (Employer's name)	Farmer (Occupation)	Beatrice Nebraska Route 6 (City) (State) (Address)
Frank N. Wiens (Employer's name)	Farmer (Occupation)	11 11 11 (City) (State) (Address)

10) Have you read or heard read the following oath of allegiance?

I HEREBY declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty of whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen; that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion: So Help Me God.

Are you willing to take this oath in becoming a citizen? *yes I affirm*

11) If necessary, are you willing to take up arms in defense of the United States? *no* If not, state why *My church & my faith forbids*

Have you ever, during the time this country was at war, deserted the military or naval forces of the United States, or departed from the jurisdiction of the enrollment district or the United States to avoid draft into the military or naval forces of the United States? *no*

12) How many times have you ever been married? *none* How many times has your husband or wife been married? \_\_\_\_\_ If more than once, give date, \_\_\_\_\_

There has been talk about raising the cost of a C-File from \$65 to \$385. I would probably not order the file at that price.

### Burgenland, Austria Catholic Church Records

**Burgeland, Austria Church records** belonging to the Catholic Church diocese in Eisenstadt, Austria and Gyor, Hungary have now been digitized and uploaded to the internet. You can view them for free until March 31, 2020. The fee schedule after that is as follows: the following fees will apply: EUR 10/15 days, EUR 20/3 months and EUR 50/1 year."

These books are being restored by the Institute for Paper Restoration in Schönbrunn Palace, Vienna, Austria. I was at the palace not long ago and had no idea they were restoring these books. My ancestors never dreamed they would end up in Schonbrunn Palace, or at least their personal records.

I'm finding going through the books and getting back to the place I left off is very difficult based on the way this site is set up. Each page doesn't have an individual web page address. I love the way Familysearch.org is set up. At that site I can copy a link to each image.

There are already Burgenland church records online at Familysearch.org, but they only go back to 1789 for my family area. The records for my family village of Inzenhof/Borosgodor are now available back to 1710 in the parish books for Heiligenkreuz. The parish changed over to Felosronok in 1789 and those church books are at Familysearch.org.

The problem tracing the family back to 1710 is that in the early 1800's the marriage entries don't list the parents names. Without parents names or house numbers families are hard to trace. There are a few first names consistently used over and over again. Joanne, Stephen, and Michael were common names for boys. Maria, Veronica, Barbara, and Catharina were favorites for girls. Every family used these names so there would often be more than one Maria Kurta, for instance, born around the same time in the same village.

What I've decided to do is imitate the PRDH that has been put together for Quebec, Canada for my family names. So basically what I'm doing is reconstructing all families carrying my names in hopes that there is a naming pattern or common godparents that might lead me to make a connection with specific families?

**This is how I'm reconstructing the families:**

First I snip records with the snipping tool.



Then I'm recording the information in a document by surname and decade.

1757 Andreas Koppel and Anna Daughter Barbara godparents Michael Cselba & Eva Craig?  
 1757 George Koppel and Veronica Son George godparents Ivan Juseth & Elizabetha  
 1757 Joannes Koppel and Veronica Son George godparents Stephan Jost & Elizabetha Pogdl  
 1755 Andreas Koppel and Anna Daughter Maria godparent Georgius Folcz  
 1755 Georgius Koppel and Catharina Son Michael godparents Michael Kollhoffer and Anna Jost  
 1755 Joannes Koppel and Ursula Pultz married 1751 Son Andreas godparents Michael Jost & his wife Barbara  
 1755 Georgius Koppel and Barbara Daughter Maria godparents Michael Jost & Ursula Jost  
 1755 Joannes Koppel and Veronica Son Georgius godparents Stephan Jost & Elizabetha Pendl  
 1754 Joannes Koppel and Judita Son Michael godparents Petrus N and Anna N  
 1754 Georgius Koppel and Barbara Weinholfer married 1754 Son Georgius godparents Francis Folosi & Ursula Klueg  
 1753 Joannes Koppel and Ursula Pultz married 1751 Son Michael godparents Joannes Sumer & Catharina  
 1753 Andreas Koppel and Barbara Son Joannes godparents Georgius Wiert & Maria Fidler  
 1752 Georgius Koppel and Barbara Daughter Barbara godparents Francis Friewiert & Eva Jost

1749 Stephen Keppel and Barbara Son Georgius godparents Georgius Cadj & Lemma Saikin  
 1749 Georgius Koppel and Barbara Son Michael godparents Michael Kerbler & Ursula Klug  
 1748 Joannes Keppel and Barbara Daughter Margaretha godparents Georgius Mulzet & Anna Gurtton?

I then look for family units. Then create a page for couples and their children.

### Couple

#### Georgius Koppel and Catharina Pamer Marriage 1772 Parish Heiligenkreuz

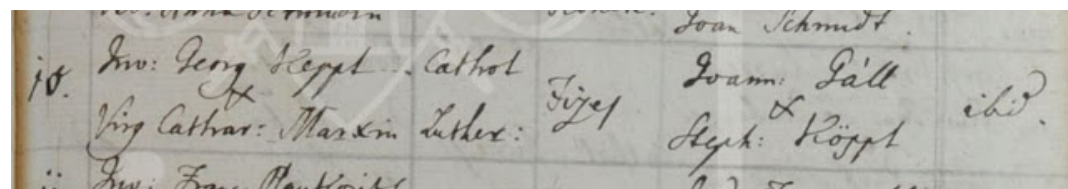
1. Catharina Koppel born 1773
2. Joannes Koppel born 1774
3. Georgius Koppel born 1778



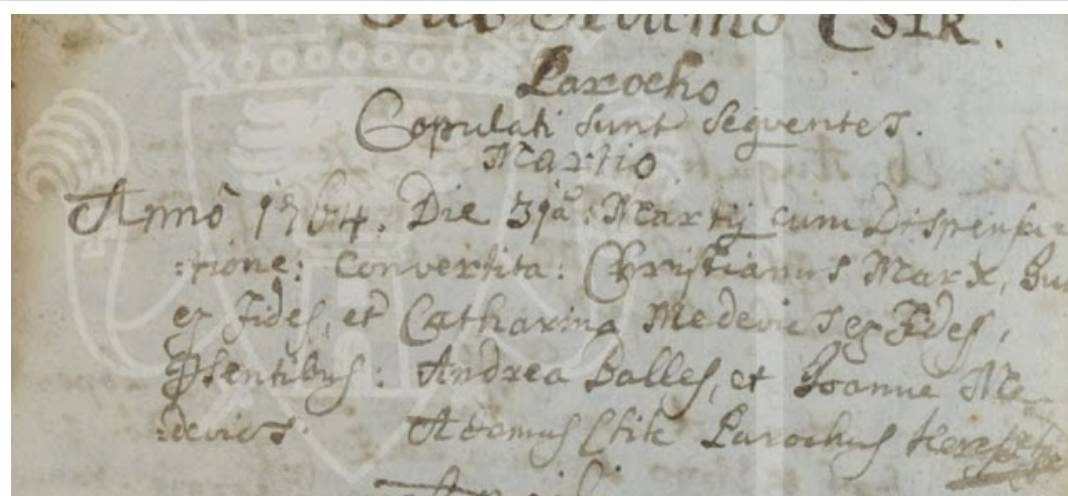
I try to decipher names the best I can. Some are impossible to read.

What I'm finding doesn't seem to make sense? I'm finding couples with very few or no children? Either they don't baptize all of their children, or they live in another area part of the year?

Another interesting discovery is mixed Lutheran and Catholic marriages.



I also found a Marx who likely converted from the Lutheran religion to Catholicism based on the previous record. When I first found the record saying convertita (below) I didn't know what it meant until I found the record above.



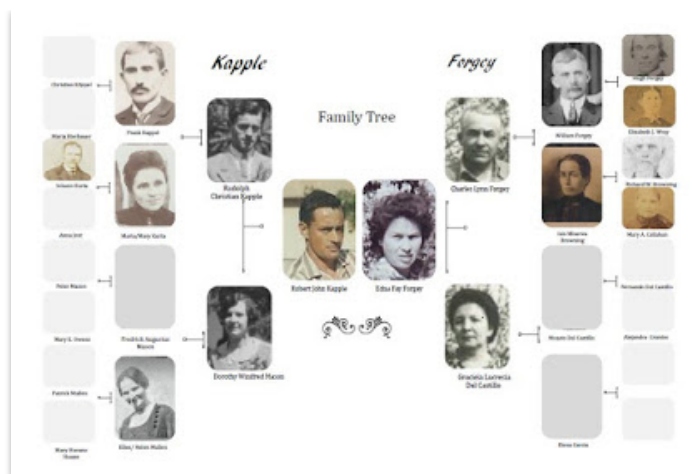
The Gussing Catholic Church records go back to 1666. The Kopls were in the area as early as 1690.

Even if I cannot make any definite connections with my own family all of the people in Inzenhof were closely related (which is why they all looked so much alike). I'm enjoying reviewing the old records even if some of them are very hard to read. Looking at the records has added to my appreciation of my Kappel/Kurta ancestors.

Posted by [Annette](#) at [3:14 PM](#) 1 comment:

Wednesday, January 1, 2020

## Reviewing A Decade In Genealogy Research & Heritage Travel



As we leave another year behind, and a decade which included 9 years blogging about my genealogy research, I review some highlights of the past decade in genealogy.

All of us involved in the genealogy community have enjoyed the heritage programming offered on TV. Shows including "Finding Your Roots", "Who Do You Think You Are", and "Genealogy Roadshow".

Streaming webinars such as those offered by Legacy, Youtube videos, and podcasts have helped has become more skilled researchers. Streaming conferences such as Rootstech and Jamboree has been fun and informative too.

The past decade has seen a rise in the number of conferences and family history events. To keep track a tool was developed during the past decade called **Conference Keeper** which is a calendar of conferences and events.



Participating in the genealogy community in the virtual world of Second Life has also been very rewarding. I highly recommend joining Second Life Virtual Genealogy Society (SLVGS) and participating in the presentations offered there. It's a nice way to connect with others interested in genealogy research.

The genealogy groups at Facebook have also been very helpful with many new groups popping up over the past decade. Groups I've helped form at Facebook include the Forgy/Forgy & Forgie group, We're descendant's of John Owens Indian Trader a group which helped me break through a brickwall, and put together a book about our Owens family. I also started the group Irish Genealogy Links.

Familysearch.org digitizing films and making them available for free online has led me to make so many breakthroughs. These films have also added interesting details to my family history. Seeing original records at Family Search is an incredibly rewarding experience.

With so much coming online over the past decade sites like **Linkpendium** and **Cyndi's List** have helped us wade through it all.

Bloggers have also helped us discover new products and sites for family history, and explained how to use them.

My wish when I started this blog in 2011 was to use DNA to push my family lines back further in time, and determine the origins of some of my family surnames. My DNA journey began in September 2011 when our Forgey Y Project began at Family Tree DNA. A year later in 2012 I took the atDNA test at Family Tree DNA. I then tested at AncestryDNA, and 23andMe. I tested my late mother at all of those companies too. I also tested other relatives. All of this testing helped to confirm our ancestry. I transferred my my results to MyHeritage and GEDmatch where I was able to make even more connections. So far I haven't found any breaks in my own family lines.



The Forgey DNA project has confirmed that this surname is a variant of the surname Ferguson. It also confirmed what my grandfather thought; we are indeed Scottish on the Forgey line. So far all Forgeys in the United States appear to be related.

The most rewarding outcome of my DNA testing has been the surfacing of photos of my Kappel great-grandparents. I had never seen photos of my Kappel great-grandparents until this year when a DNA match living in Austria contacted me and told me his family had photos of them. My great-grandmother Mary Kurta-Kappel sent photos to her sister living in Austria. I was also contacted by another cousin at Ancestry this year who also had a photo of Mary Kurta-Kappel. I was nearly ready to give up on finding photos of them. This year two different distant cousins came forward with some.

When this decade began DNA testing for genealogy was in its infancy. We've seen many improvements in our results over this past decade. The ethnicity results are definitely much improved from when I tested in 2012. The last decade has been a period of development of new DNA tools such as Chromosome Painter that help us to analyze our DNA results to get more out of them.

In 2015 I began doing Heritage Travel. Travel and genealogy being my favorite pastimes because of that this has been extremely rewarding.

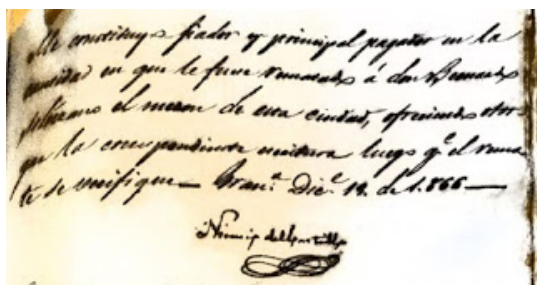
### Nicaragua 2015

The first heritage country I visited in 2015 was my mother Edna and Grandmother Graciela Del Castillo-Forgey's birthplace Nicaragua. My grandmother was Nicaraguan and she married my US Marine grandfather Charles Forgey. Nicaragua is at the top of my list of favorite places with beautiful scenery and weather.





I extended my Nicaraguan family back a couple generations doing research in Granada Nicaragua's archives. I also was able to see some documents that my ancestors wrote. The archives has many of Nicasio Del Castillo's handwritten documents. I loved seeing his signature.



## England and Scotland 2016

Scotland was the 2nd heritage location I visited. Many of my earliest American ancestors had Scottish and Scots-Irish roots. Another absolutely beautiful place I was sorry I had to leave.







I also visited England which I loved so much I've visited twice. I know I have some English ancestors but I have not been able to trace these early American ancestors to a place in England. Some of my possibly English surnames are Browning, Thurman, Morris, Hicks, Watkins, Abbot, Marriott, and Adams. I'm also missing some of the surnames of wives. I don't know the surnames of some of the Owens wives?



### East Tennessee 2016

In 2016 I also made my first Trip to the Forgey area of East Tennessee. I attended the Tennessee First Families Reunion during that trip, which included seminars on Tennessee genealogy, and a tour of historical places in East Tennessee. I also met a distant Forgey cousin Kenneth Edmondson after years of collaboration via email and Facebook.



I also applied to become a member of First Families of Tennessee in 2016. I was accepted based on my ancestor Roger Browning.



### Historical Highlights Tour of East Coast 2016

In 2016 I also took a Historical Highlights tour of the East Coast with Trafalgar Tours. This tour covered my ancestral areas of Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. We also visited the area in Virginia where my German ancestors lived in the Shenandoah Valley. I was able to visit the Christ Church in Philadelphia where my Browning ancestors married.



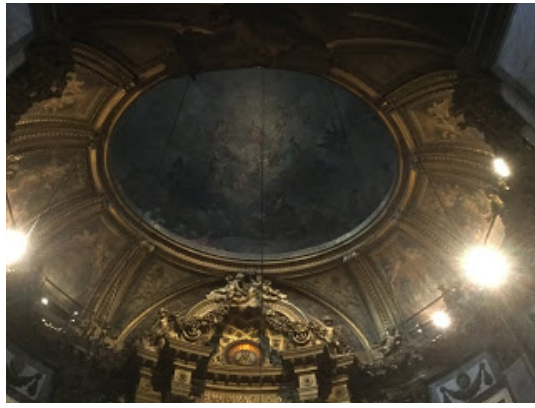
### Nicaragua again Christmas 2016

I returned to Nicaragua again at the end of 2016 to do a little more sightseeing. I was able to see more of Nicaragua on this trip.



### France and a 2nd Trip to England 2017

In 2017 I visited France where my French Canadian ancestors originated. Some of my ancestors were from Paris where I spent a week. I loved visiting some of the churches my family was associated with. One of my favorite things to do was sit and look at the Seine River, and the passing boats. One of my ancestral families lived on a bridge spanning the Seine. Happy to have ancestors from this beautiful place.



### **A 2nd Trip to East Tennessee Summer 2017**

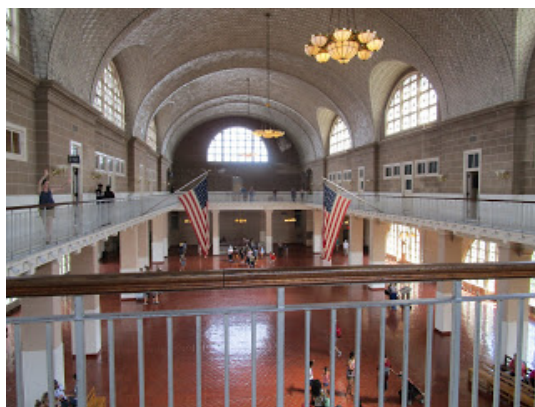
I visited Tennessee again in 2017 to do a little research in the McPike's Washington County. I stayed in the lovely little town of Jonesborough. I highly recommend visiting that cute town if you are visiting East Tennessee. I was able to visit the house of the man who made land entries for the county, and the room where he would have recorded the William McPike's land entries.





### New York City July 2017

From Tennessee I headed for New York for my first visit there in early July. I was so excited to visit the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. My Kappel/Kurta family arrived in America through Ellis Island as did my Irish Mullen/Huvane family.



### Indiana Spring 2018

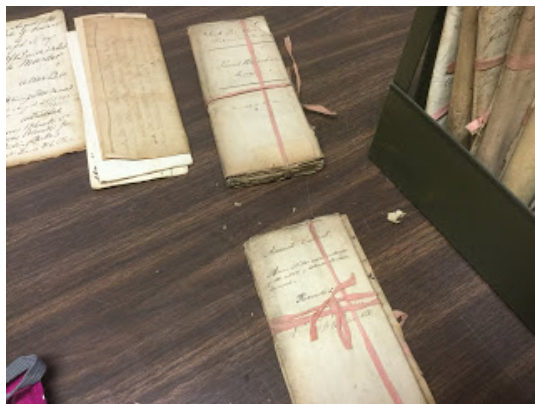
In 2018 I visited Indiana where my grandfather Charles Lynn Forgey was born, for the first time. I stayed in Jackson County where my grandfather and generations of his family lived back to the early 19th Century. I loved Jackson County with its beautiful farms, and countryside. I felt very much at home there. I was able to meet my Forgey/Roller double cousin Nan Harvey on this trip after years of communicating at Facebook.

Visiting my ancestors graves was very moving.



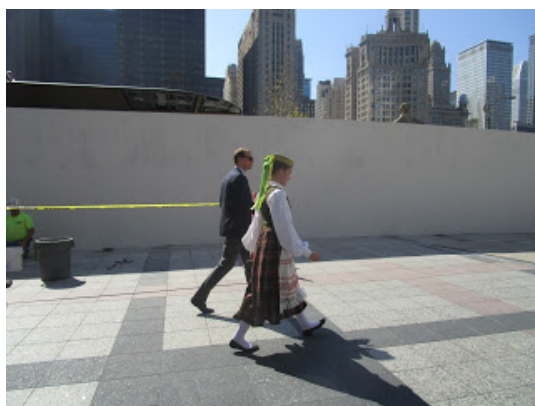
I did my very first courthouse research at the Jackson County Courthouse in Brownstown on this trip.

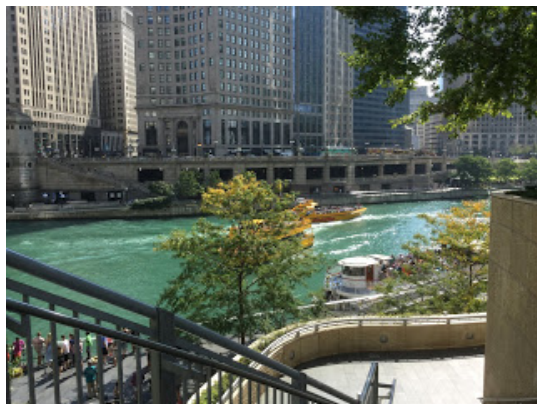




### Chicago, Illinois September 2017

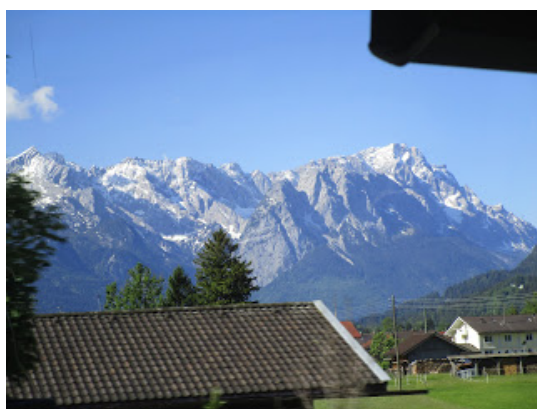
I visited my father and paternal grandmother's birthplace of Chicago for the first time in 2017. I had been wanting to visit Chicago for so long. It was a thrill to finally visit there. The weather was perfect too! I could definitely move to Chicago, but this California girl may not tolerate the cold winter weather.





### Germany, Austrian, & Hungary 2018

I visited ancestral countries of Germany, Austria, and Hungary for the first time in 2018. All of these countries are beautiful. I was saying ooh aah constantly, especially in the mountainous areas of Germany and Austria.



Visiting Burgenland, Austria for the first time in 2018 was so exciting. When I discovered my family was from there in 1999 I was dying to visit someday, and that someday came in 2018.







Visiting Graz was also something I've wanted to do since learning that my grandfather Rudolph Kappel was born on the outskirts of that city. It's a lovely city was an exotic feel.



### **Ireland May 2019**

In 2019 I continued my heritage travels visiting Ireland in May. My great-grandmother mother Helen Mullen-Mason was born in Galway, Ireland. I wondered if I would like Ireland as much as England? I found that I liked it just as much as England. I think Ireland is even a little more interesting than England because of the pub entertainment. Also Ireland has a cozy feel that makes you feel at home. Plus being surround by so much history everywhere is wonderful.





Happily I was able to visit my Mullen family's townland of Pollaturick. Thanks to my cousin Darryl I was able to locate and visit the Mullen family home.





I also visited family cemetery.



### Spain June 2019

From Ireland I flew to Spain for a week. This was also my first trip to Spain. I wondered if I would like Spain as much as Italy? Spain is definitely as history filled and beautiful as Italy. Spain is also special because I have some Spanish heritage. According to research done by another researcher my Del Castillo family came from the Sevilla area. I loved Sevilla and nearby Granada. Spain is amazing!



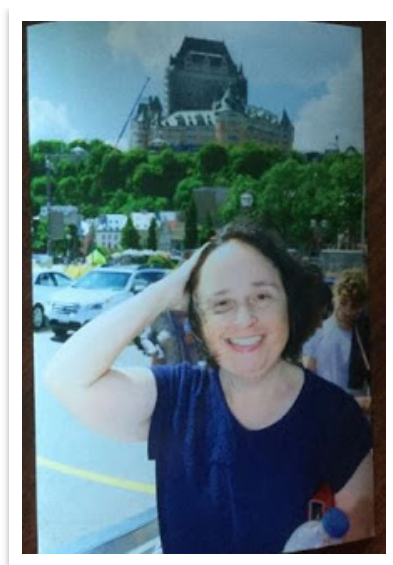




### Quebec, Canada August 2019

My final heritage trip of the year was to Quebec last August, and I fell in love with it just like all of the other places I've been. My ancestor Pierre Masson/Peter Mason was a native of Quebec.



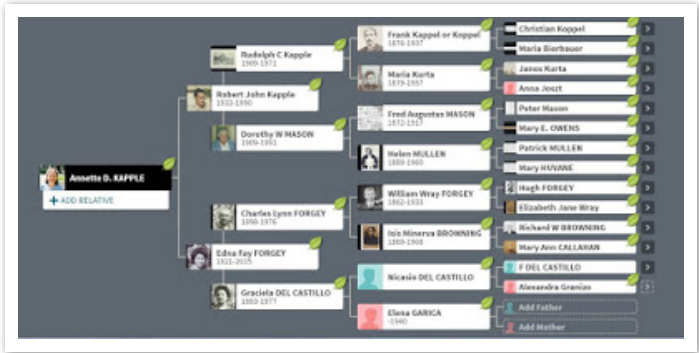


Now I can cross out finding photos of my Kappel great-grandparents from my genealogy to do list.

1. I think my number one priority this year is going to be trying to find out more about the mysterious Alexander Forgey of Washington County, Virginia. We don't know who his children are, and we don't know where or when he died? We lose all track of him in 1807. **Still looking**
2. While researching the Brower family I saw Brenneman given as Susannah Brower's mother Eve's maiden name. I can't confirm this. I would like some documentation for this? **Still looking**
3. I've been doing some Browning family research this year. I would like to find more documentation linking the Tennessee Brownings with Maryland. Also need to find documentation that Elizabeth Drane was Edward's wife. **I visited Greene County, TN. I've collected up more deeds for the Browning Family in Tennessee. Still only have circumstantial evidence for the Maryland connection**
4. ~~I still don't have any photos of Frank Kappel and Mary Kurta, my great-grand parents, so I will be continuing to search for those.~~ **Still no photos**
5. Another carry over from previous years is finding the death information for ~~Patrick Mullen~~ and Mary Huvane who died in Ireland. **I was able to find the death information for both Patrick Mullen. He died 13 Aug 1930 in Pollaturick Co. Galway Ireland. I even found the name of his mother, a detail I never even thought was possible. I was also able to identify the breed of dogs my family owned in Ireland, and what color they were, by using the Dog License register at Findmypast.**
6. This year I would like to focus on my Browning line and maybe find a male to take the Y DNA test for our line.
7. I would like to work on filling in my photo tree also which is at the top of this blog post. I need someone to come forward with these remaining photos.

This has been a busy decade. I need to rest a bit before beginning some new adventures in family history.

**Happy New Year and New Decade!**



Posted by Annette at 11:04 PM No comments:

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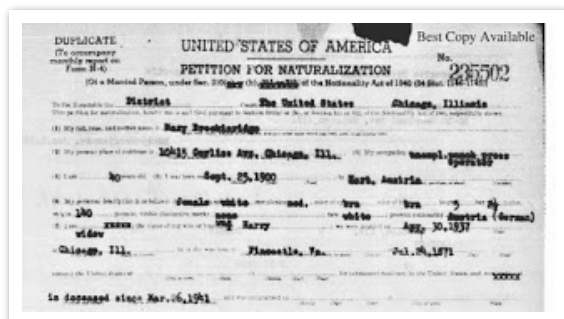
# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)
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Tuesday, July 28, 2020

## Using A Naturalization Certificate to ID old photos/ Plus Learning more about Naturalization



I've spent the last week and a half waiting for the mail carrier to bring me a naturalization certificate with a photo of my great-aunt Mary Kappel. The mails are slow these days with odd gaps in the days when I receive mail. In the past I've never gone days without receiving mail like I do now.

Last fall I received a bunch of copies of old Kappel family photos. These are the first photos I've ever seen of my great-grandparents and their family. Most of the photos were unmarked. I was able to identify my great-grandmother, Mary Kurta-Kappel; otherwise, if the photos weren't marked I had no idea who was in them?

Since I now knew what my great-grandmother looked like from identified photos I had a vague idea of who was in the photo below. The back of the photo also says Koppel (which was how the name was spelled in their native Austro-Hungary). I've been to the village the family came from, in today's Inzenhof, Austria, so I recognized the place the photo was taken. It appears the photo was taken outside a typical local house. I also knew that she visited her family in Inzenhof in 1908, and didn't return to the United States until 1910. I inferred the identities of the children based on the names on the 1910 passenger list for the family.



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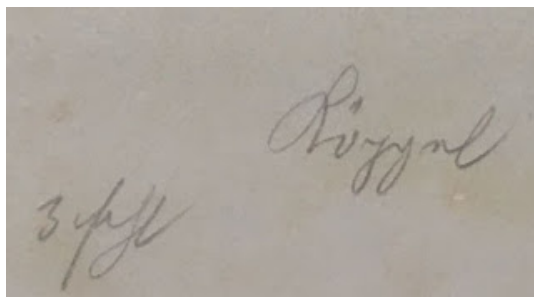


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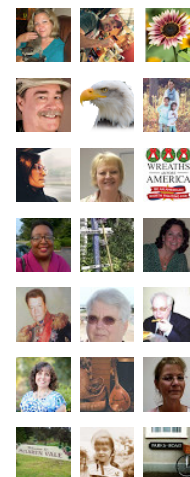
Koppel from the back of the photo. Written in the local German Script.

I assumed the eldest daughter in this photo was Mary Kappel, she was the eldest girl in the family, who also appeared on the passenger list returning to America. It was just an assumption because this photo could have been taken on another earlier visit in 1904 when Mary had previously returned for a visit? The children could have been her nieces and nephews?



1910 Passenger list.

When I compared the photo above, using facial recognition software, I got a match between the child I thought could be Mary, and the woman in the photo below. They were 99.7% alike. I assumed they both could be Mary? I had no positively identified photos of her though.

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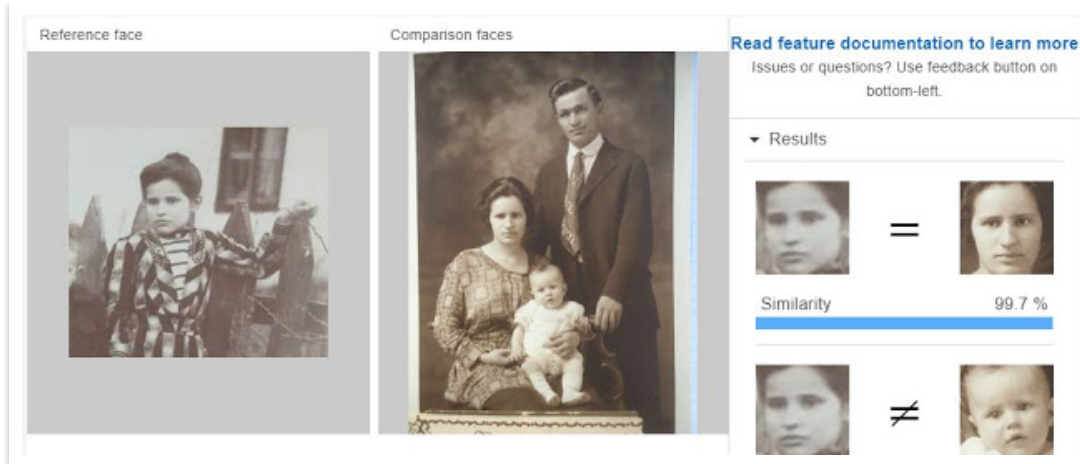
► February (1)

► January (1)

► 2019 (16)

► 2018 (22)

► 2017 (31)



Using my access to Ancestry.com through the Los Angeles Public Library I found a naturalization for her. I had no idea she was required to naturalize? It was an accidental find when I was looking for anything they had on her. I thought the fact her father naturalized automatically gave her citizenship?

Yes, she had to naturalize because she was born in Austro-Hungary in 1900. Her father Frank didn't become a citizen until December 1926. If she had been under 18 when he became a citizen she would have automatically become a citizen (my grandfather Rudolph just made it under the wire. He turned 18 a few months after his father became a citizen).

It was good for my photo identification project that she did have to naturalize. Sometimes the Naturalization Petition had a photo of the applicant. Unfortunately in both the case of Mary and her mother neither petition contained a photo. If you want a photo, and the naturalization was during the time period photos were taken, then you have to obtain the Certificate of Naturalization which is generally only available through the [US Citizenship and Immigration Services or USCIS](#).

You can apply for a copy of the C-File at the website, and it costs \$65 for copies of the entire file which may contain several pages or just a couple. It's easiest to request a copy using the certificate number you can probably find either using an online index to naturalization records or by finding a copy of the actual naturalization online that contains the certificate number. Without the number you'll have to pay for both an index search and the document retrieval. If they search both the index and retrieve the documents the entire process can take over 1 year. With the certificate number it takes 2 or 3 months.

Since I tried to contact descendants of Mary Kappel who matched me on my AncestryDNA test and I never received a reply my only hope of identifying her in the unmarked photos would be through the photo on her certificate of naturalization. I forked over the \$65 again (which is a bargain because they wanted to raise the price to \$300) and waited for the documents. That was back in early May. I didn't seem to get the option to view the records online this time, like I did when I ordered my great-grandmother Mary's C-file? My request was completed July 14th, 2020. I gave it a few days before dashing to the mailbox every time I heard the mail carrier.

2016 (24)

2015 (30)

2014 (53)

2013 (59)

2012 (76)

2011 (94)

## About Me

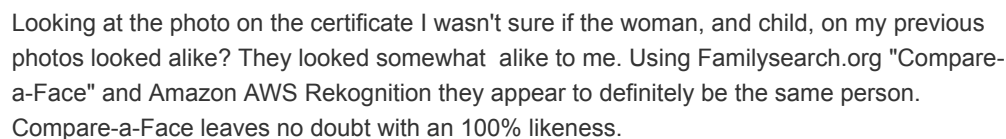


**Annette**

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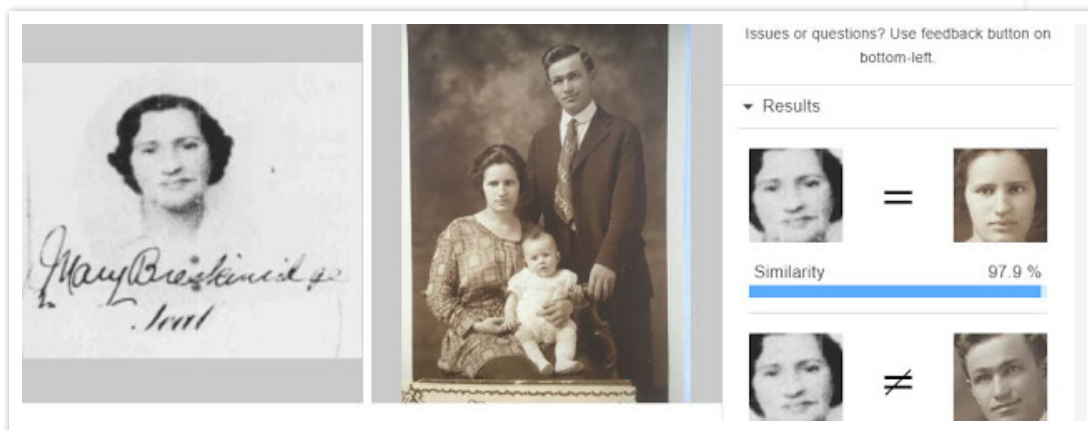
## Feedjit

After over a week of running to the mailbox I decided to email USCIS and asked if I could possibly view the documents online like before? Someone was nice enough to email the documents to me ( just went out and checked my mail again and still no documents?)





Amazon AWS Rekognition is a little more exacting when it comes to comparisons, and I feel it's the gold standard for comparisons. Their likeness is 97.9%. I feel like anything over 95% means it's a virtual certainty the two photos are of the same person.



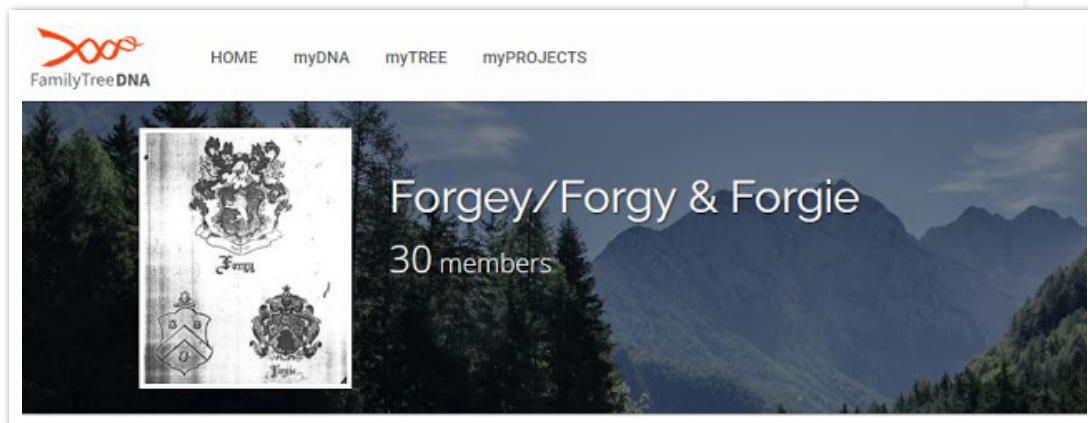
Now I can attach all of these photos to Mary Kappel-Breckinridge at both Ancestry and Familysearch.org with confidence. If any of her descendants believe I'm wrong they can always contact me.

I was thinking my days waiting for documents in the mail were gone? Not everything is online yet. Nice to finally relax and not have to wait for the mail carrier! That's over, for now.

Posted by **Annette** at **5:05 PM** **No comments:**

Monday, June 22, 2020

## A Y-DNA Test Revealed An Unknown Problem then Solved it



### The beginning of this journey

This story begins with a book written about our Forgey/Forgy family written in the 1950's called *"A Genealogical History of Forgy, Forgey and Forgie in America"*. In that book the author Lucille Forgy Wallace speculated whether all of the early families coming to America were related? In 1958 there was no way to prove this because no documents survive that would prove or disprove a relationship. All of these families came to America in the 18th century. They were ethnically Scottish but many of them came from Northern Ireland. Since all of these families were coming from the British empire there are no passenger lists to even

trace these families back to a specific place, which might prove a relationship.

I was not able to prove the relationship of the early ones coming to America. All came from North Ireland. They evidently are of the same family. Each has been listed as the head of a family, thus the different books. The work will go on, and possibly in the future the relationship will be proven.

From Lucille Forgy Wallace's book

One of the goals of our Forgey/Forgy & Forgie DNA project at Family Tree DNA has been to test the hypothesis that all families carrying these names are related? A distant cousin of mine with the surname Forgey was the first to test for our group. That was back in 2011. His first match with a related surname was a Forgie. This match was a mismatch by 3 markers on 37 markers. Mismatching by this many markers does prove a relation, but that relationship would be quite distant going back to Ulster, Ireland or Scotland?

Initially having only one surname related match I checked the Y-Search and noticed there was another Forgy male in that database but that man had a different haplogroup. My distant cousin's haplogroup was I- M223 and the Forgy at Y-Search was in a different I-M253 haplogroup. I felt like maybe we were seeing proof all Forgey/Forgys weren't related? According to an Irish surname study and Lucille Wallace's book the Forgey/Forgy and Forgie surnames are variants of Ferguson. There are different unrelated Ferguson lines so it's possible all people with the surname Forgey etc. aren't related either.

The name Forgie is mentioned in Surnames of Scotland. "Forgie (1) may be from Forgie near Montrose (2) A corruption of Fergie (Fergus) as Forgieson for Ferguson.

My Uncle later tested and matched our first tester and distant cousin on 37 markers. They mismatched each other by 1 marker on 37 markers. They are now both in the Big Y project at Family Tree DNA, and they now have their own SNP named I-BY19896 which is hundreds of years younger than our previous SNP prediction. So we are confident that all of the Forgey/Forgys that headed south from Pennsylvania to initially settle Tennessee, along with the border area of Virginia, and North Carolina are all related.

Discovering a different haplogroup and possible different unrelated family line led me to seek out more people descended from that line to confirm there was another haplogroup and not an NPE.

### A Surprising Thing Happened

It took me a few years to find another person in that line to test. In 2014 another male in the Robert Forgy DNA line tested. A surprising thing happened when his test results came in. He didn't match his distant cousin, who was a 5th cousin on paper, or anyone in our Forgey group which had now grown larger. Most testers matched the I-M223 haplogroup. This man was in a R haplogroup. Now we had two distant cousins who didn't match anyone? Did both of these lines have NPE's or just one? We needed more testers to find out.

### Six years later

Fast forward 6 years later we had someone in another line which had not tested join our group. He was from the Hugh Forgey Revolutionary War veteran line. He turned out to be from the very common R-M269 haplogroup also. He had many pages of matches. One of his 12 marker matches turned out to be our R-M269 match that didn't match his cousin or

anyone else. Our previous Robert Forgy descendant was only tested on 12 markers. These two men were perfect matches on 12 markers. With such a common haplogroup this could be a coincidental match? The 12 marker test needed to be upgraded to at least 37 markers, which we did.

Last Friday the upgraded results came in and these two men still match on 37 markers. I'm confident now there is a different haplogroup shared by those with these shared surnames. The I-M253 haplogroup could unfortunately be an NPE?

Our two R-M269 haplogroup matches mismatched by 2 markers on 37 markers. Our more distantly related testers tend to mismatch by two markers on 37 markers. There definitely isn't a close relationship between these two cousins. The relationship could be 300 or more years ago.

Name	Paternal Ancestor Name	Country	Haplogroup
p I-M223/ Big Y I-BY19896			
Forgy	Samuel Forgy, b. 1726 and d. 1770	Ireland	I-M223
Forgy	Samuel Forgy 1726 - 1770	France	I-M223
Forgy	Andrew Forgy, 1732-1809	Unknown Origin	I-M223
Forgy	Andrew Forgy d. 1820	Unknown Origin	I-M223
Forgy	Andrew Forgy 1732 - 1809	Ireland	I-BY19896
Forgy	Andrew Forgy, 1732-1809	Unknown Origin	I-BY19896
Forgy	Samuel Forgy, b 1726 and d 1770	Ireland	I-M223
Forgy	Mr. Samuel Forgy, d. 1770	Northern Ireland	I-L126
p R-M269 Hugh Forgy Antrim, Ireland/Kentucky & Robert Forgy Ireland/Penns			
Forgy	Hugh Wilson Forgy b. 1754 and d. 1837	Ireland	R-M269
Forgy	Robert Forgy	Ireland	R-M269

Does this prove that all Forgy/Forgy's were never related? It certainly could be there was a line break hundreds of years ago resulting in different male haplogroups? Both of the R haplogroup men do match a Ferguson so it is possible that their surname comes from a different Ferguson line. We do now know there were two different male lines going back hundreds of years that aren't related. So it appears that all of the men that originally came to America were not related through the male line.

As more people from different surname lines test we might solve more mysteries and find more haplogroups. We may solve problems and find new problems to solve. DNA is always unpredictable.

**All Forgy/Forgy or Forgy's who have tested at Family Tree DNA are invited to join our project**

Posted by **Annette** at **3:02 PM**

No comments:



Saturday, June 6, 2020

## Never Give Up/ A lesson from my Nicaraguan Research



I began my Nicaraguan family history research in 1999. I wasn't sure how to approach it at all before I had access to the internet in the early 2000's. I found a LDS Family History Library outline for Nicaraguan research posted online which laid out the record types and information they provided listed. According to the online church records went back the farthest, but I didn't know which parishes my family may have belonged to? I asked my mother and she said she provided her baptismal information to the parish church she married in here in California. I called that parish and they told me she was baptized at Nuestra Mercedes Church in Granada, Nicaragua, but they didn't have a copy of that document anymore. I was able to find a photo online of the church. After seeing what the old church looked like, and discovering the history of that parish went back to the late 1500's I really wanted to know how long our family belonged to that parish.

The only information on my Grandmother Graciela Del Castillo's family came from her death certificate which stated she was born in Granada, Nicaragua in 1893, and her parents' names were Nicasio Del Castillo and Elena Garcia. My mother had no other information. She said her grandfather Nicasio was a lawyer in Nicaragua. My mother was brought to America at age 3. She couldn't remember much about Nicaragua other than she rode a donkey and monkeys threw twigs at the family as they made their way to a ship that brought them to the United States.

### Where My Family Journey Started

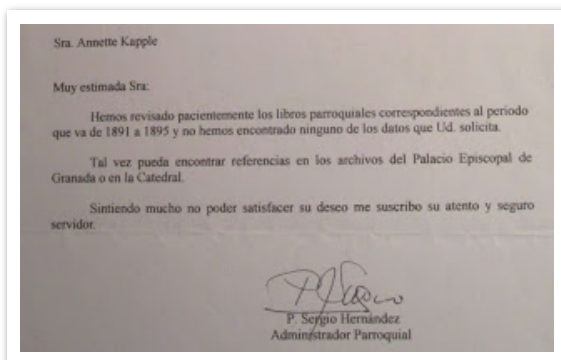
STATE FILE NUMBER		OFFICE OF THE STATE REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS		LOCAL REGISTRATION DISTRICT AND 'CERTIFICATE' NUMBER	
1. NAME OF DECEASED—FIRST NAME <b>Graciela</b>		2. MIDDLE NAME <b>Lucrecia</b>		3. LAST NAME <b>Forgey</b>	
4. SEX <b>Female</b>		5. COLOR OR RACE <b>Caucasian</b>		6. DATE OF BIRTH <b>September 10, 1893</b>	
7. BIRTHPLACE (STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY) <b>Nicaragua</b>		8. AGE (LAST BIRTHDAY) <b>83</b>		9. DATE OF DEATH—MONTH DAY YEAR <b>June 28, 1977</b>	
10. NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER <b>Nicasio del Castillo - Nicaragua</b>		11. MAIDEN NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER <b>Elena Garcia - Nicaragua</b>		12. HOUR <b>6:00 a.</b>	
13. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY <b>U.S.A.</b>		14. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER <b>547-18-3241-D</b>		15. MARRIED, NEVER MARRIED, WIDOWED, DIVORCED, SEPARATED <b>Widowed</b>	
16. LAST OCCUPATION <b>Housewife</b>		17. MONTHS YEARS IN THIS OCCUPATION <b>56</b>		18. NAME OF LAST EMPLOYING COMPANY OR FIRM <b>Own Home</b>	
19. PLACE OF DEATH—NAME OF HOSPITAL OR OTHER INSTITUTION, ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, COUNTRY		20. NAME OF SURVIVING SPOUSE (IF WIFE, ENTER MAIDEN NAME)		21. KIND OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS <b>Homemaking</b>	

My journey to acquire more information from Nicaragua started in earnest in 2002 when I began writing to Nuestra Mercedes church and the civil registration office in Granada, Nicaragua.

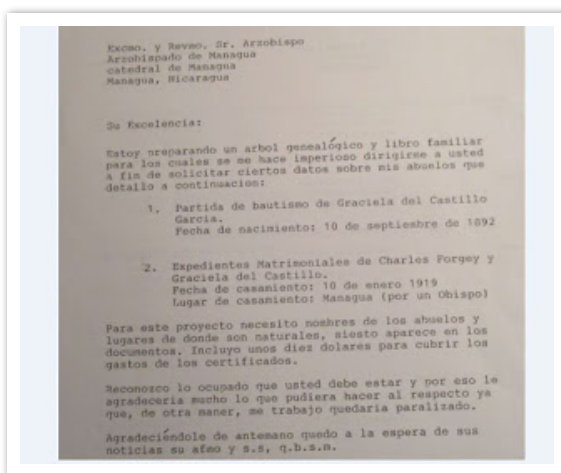
I sent \$10 for a search of the record books index of Nuestra Mercedes church for the marriage and birth records for the birth of my grandmother Graciela Del Castillo, and



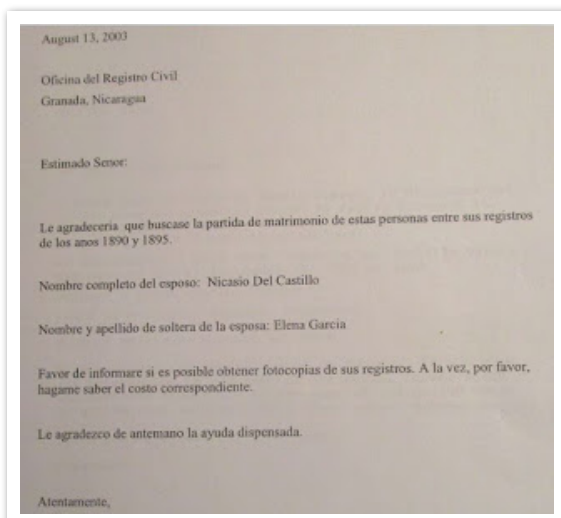
marriage of her parents Nicasio Del Castillo and Elena Garcia. I had no idea when my great-grandparents married but my mother said she believed my grandmother was illegitimate. I inferred that maybe they married soon after she was born. I had a date and year for my grandmother's birth. This search produced no results. I thought maybe my grandmother's family belonged to a different parish?



The Priest suggested I contact the archdiocese office, which I also did with no response at all.



I wrote a letter to the Civil Registration office in August of 2003 requesting a search for the marriage record of my great-grandparents Nicasio Del Castillo and Elena Garcia. No response at all either.



Someone also working on Nicaraguan genealogy told me the only way to get searches for certificates would be to go to the office in person. Since I could not do this myself and didn't know of any family still living in Nicaragua I decided to contact the US Embassy in Managua and ask for their help. They told me to fax the civil registration office in Granada and they gave me their fax number and I faxed them in 2004. This produced no results because my friend the Nicaraguan researcher was right. Another person told me that office doesn't respond to mail requests, only in person requests.

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In 2005 I wrote to the parish where my mother Edna Forgey-Kapple was baptized again. According to the church where she was married Nuestra Mercedes was the church she was baptized in. I thought maybe a relative might have been listed on this record which may have furthered my research. This time I received no response at all from them, unlike in 2002.

Estimado Reverendo Padre:

Le agradecería que me enviara una copia literal de la partida de bautismo de mi madre.

Nombres de pila y apellidos: Edna Forgey  
Fecha de nacimiento: 23 de Abril 1921  
Lugar de nacimiento: Granada, Nicaragua  
Lugar de bautismo: Nuestra Mercedes  
Granada, Nicaragua  
Nombre completo del padre: Charles Lynn Forgey  
Nombre y apellido de soltera de la madre: Graciela Del Castillo

Le agradecería me hiciera saber el costo de sus servicios y la mejor forma de remitirle el pago de los mismos.

Si no tiene a su disposición estos registros, le agradecería que me suministrara información acerca de adónde puedo dirigirme para solicitarlos.

Adjunto una donación de 10 dólares como ofrenda para su parroquia.

Le agradezco de antemano la ayuda dispensada.

Atentamente,

I was 0 for 5 when it came to my search requests in Nicaragua. I continued my research off and on through Google searches on my names and searches for records online. I also posted on genealogy message boards for Nicaragua. I received a response from someone who had information on my grandmother Graciela's siblings, their children, and spouses (you can read the response I received here at [Boletín de Genealogía](#)).

When the Managua, Nicaragua civil registration records came online I was able to find some of my family's documents because my grandfather Charles Forgey was stationed in Managua

as a US Marine. This information didn't take me any farther back because my grandmother's family lived in Granada likely for centuries.

In 2015 a fellow researcher, and DNA match, contacted me and encouraged me to go out to Nicaragua where he said there was an archive that had census records for Granada which would at least take my family back another generation. Many records were lost when American slaveholders from Tennessee overthrew the Nicaraguan government in the 1850's hoping to establish a slave owning country for US slave owners.

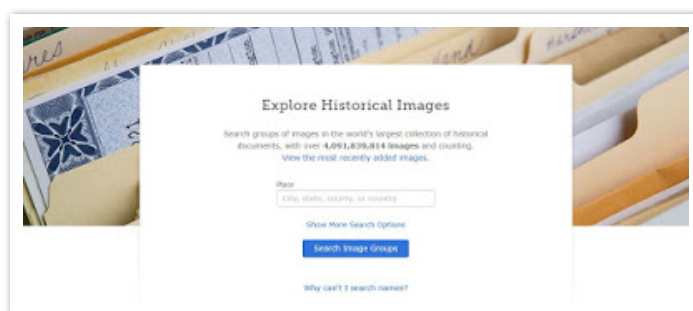
My Nicaraguan fellow researcher said Nicaragua was generally as safe as anywhere in the United States. I decided to take his advice travel there, which I did in December of 2015. I was able to review the Census for Granada, Nicaragua for 1882 when my great-grandfather Nicasio Del Castillo was 16 years old. He was living with both of his parents and siblings in the parish of Nuestra Mercedes or La Merced. I was not only able to add my great-great-grandparents Francisco Del Castillo and Alejandra Granizo, but I also was able to identify my 3 times great-grandfather also named Nicasio Del Castillo. I found the elder Nicasio in the census records and the many other records held by this wonderful archive. The staff was extremely helpful finding references for me.

I actually visited Nicaragua in December of 2015 and 2016. Unfortunately the civil registration office was closed both years for the Christmas holidays. The church offices were also closed the weeks I was there.

Someone not long ago contacted me stating they found the death certificate for Elena Garcia which stated she was the illegitimate daughter of Andrea Garcia. The death certificate also implied she never married the father of her children because it listed her as single. It then occurred to me that was why no records of marriage were found.

## FamilySearch Images

Last week I discovered the wonderful [Familysearch Images](#) page which seems to have some images not yet in the catalog where I usually access them (it could be they are cataloged in a place I haven't searched?). The [Granada, Nicaragua records](#) are also in the catalog where they are easier to search with better descriptions. .



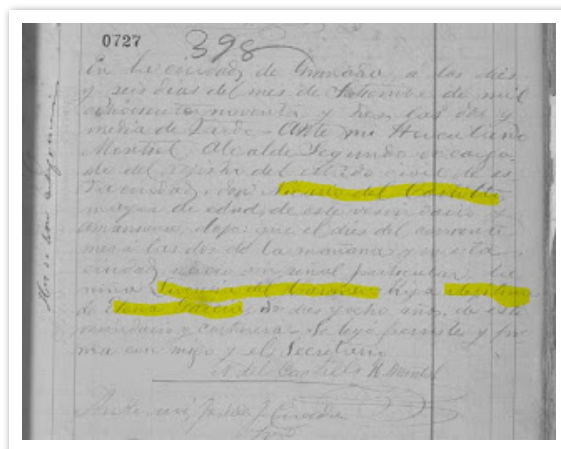
I had been searching for Granada, Nicaragua church microfilms and digital images for years off and on. This feature, which was new to me, encouraged me to try again. I had immediate success when searching my research area. I found church and civil registers were available. I had no idea these images were now available online.

Since I have time on my hands while staying at home social distancing for COVID-19 I've been searching these book images nonstop for 2 weeks. It's really paid off. I've found images for all of the records I began asking for in 2002. It's unbelievable because I never thought I would ever see them. I heard local officials were against providing these records online.

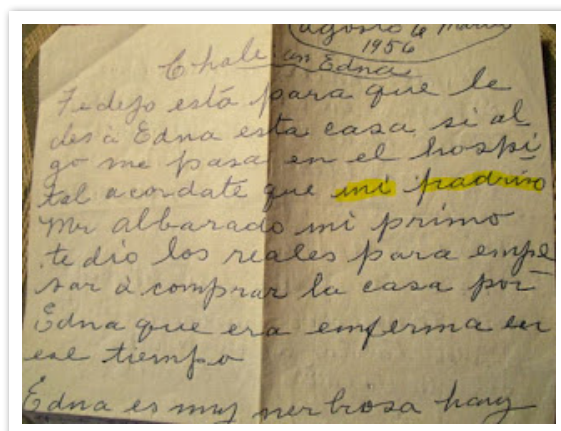
The first record I discovered was my grandmother's baptismal record in the archdiocese book for 1893. I knew she was born on 10 September so I was able to find the record quickly. I found out she was baptized as Lucrecia (her middle name) Garcia confirming she was illegitimate. There are indexes for baptisms making finding these records easy.



I then was able to find her civil registration record. Her birth was registered by Nicasio Del Castillo which supports his paternity. The civil registration records listed her as Lucrecia Del Carmen Garcia.



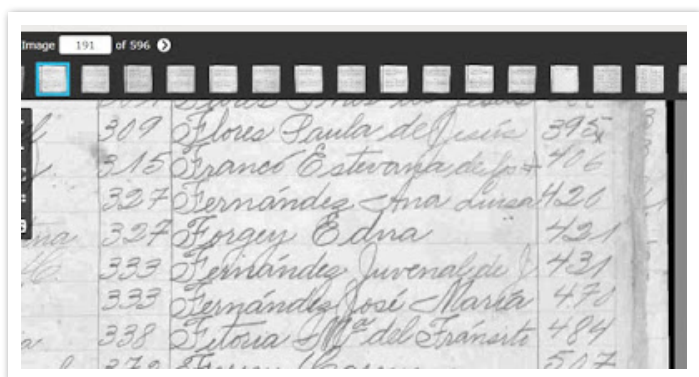
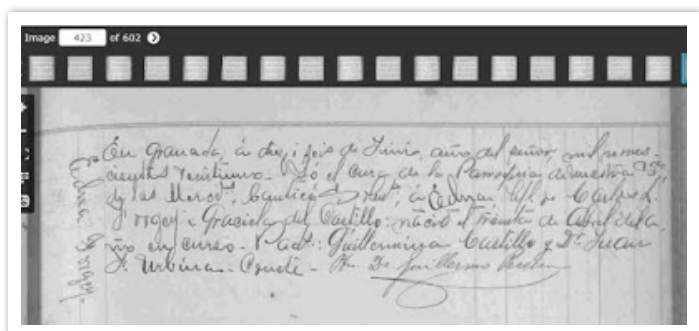
My mother's entire family called Francisco Alvarado "Padrino". I had thought that was just a nickname the family used for him. I discovered from this, above, birth record that Francisco was my grandmother's godfather. I didn't think he would be because he was about 17 when she was born. I've since discovered that anyone at least 16 years of age is eligible to be a godparent. In the will my grandmother Graciela wrote in 1956 she does write Mr. Albarado "mi padrino".





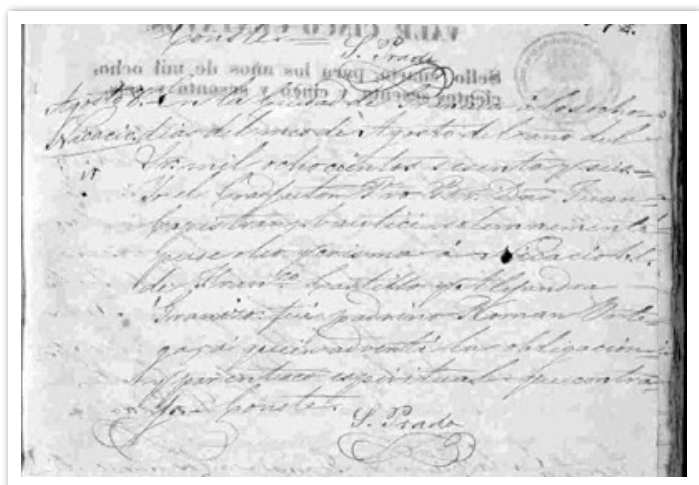
Obviously since neither record lists a Graciela my requests for her birth information would have produced no results.

I was able to find my mother's baptismal record and her name was correctly written in both the index and records. I was happy to learn the names of my mother's godparent.



There are church baptism records going back to 1856. Civil registration records only go back to 1879.

I was able to find my great-grandfather Nicasio Del Castillo in the baptismal index (which is an individual volume, you have to then find the book for that time period). I knew he was born about 1866 from the census. I searched a book for that time period and oddly he wasn't in that book? Sometimes there are several books for the same time period, which I discovered, he did appear in the second book also covering that time period.



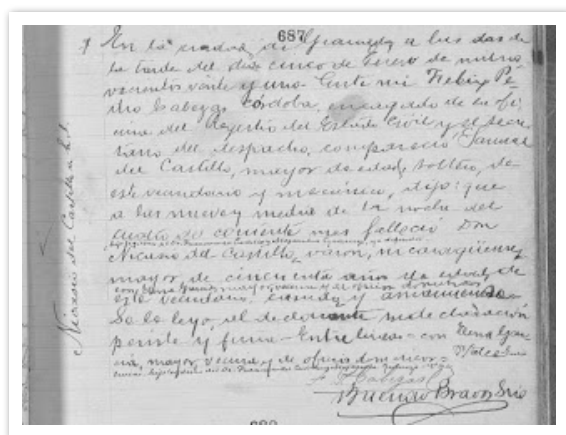
I was so happy to have a birth record confirming what I found on the census.

I didn't know when Nicasio Del Castillo died, and there are no indexes for church or civil death records. Finding this record required searching pages of the easier to search church records books which covered the years 1904-1929. I knew he died after 1919 because I was told he wrote a poem for my grandparents' marriage that year. I also figured he probably died before 1925 when my family came to California because something seemed to happen to reverse the family's financial fortunes in Nicaragua? I decided to begin my search after my grandparents' marriage in 1919. After going through a number of pages I did find his death record in 1921.

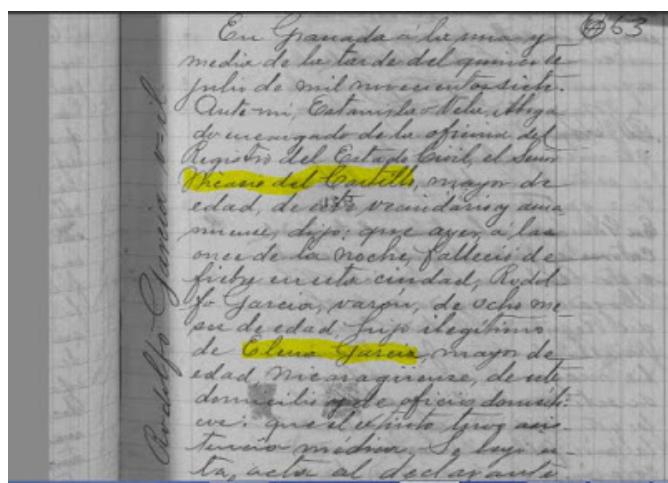
The church death record gave the correct approximate age for my great-grandfather Nicasio. Oddly it stated he was married to Elena Garcia which the children's birth records don't support?



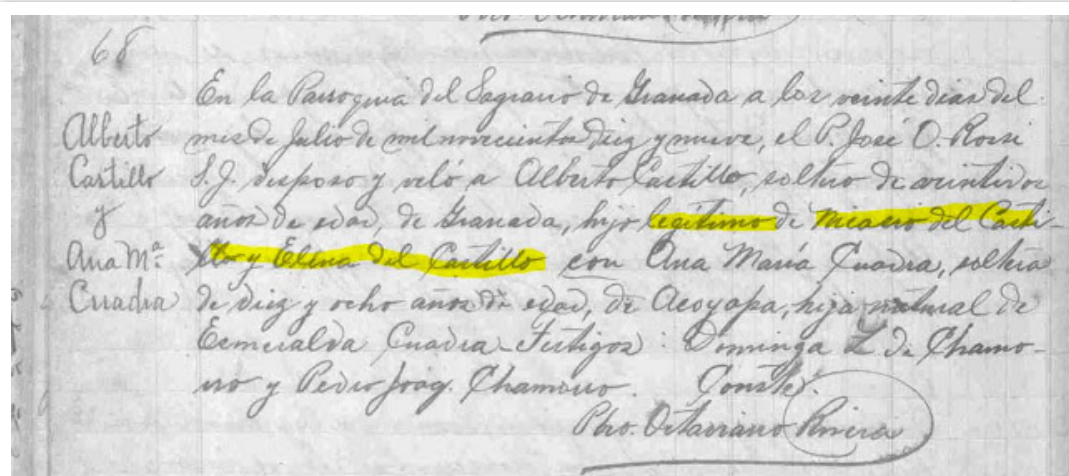
I was then able to easily find Nicasio's civil death record in the un-indexed records for 1921. His son Samuel Del Castillo reported the death. Apparently he didn't have much family history information. It appears later someone added Nicasio's parents' names. It does appear that the clerk added this information around the same time judging by the handwriting and ink use. Elena Garcia is named as his wife again although I have been searching the marriage books and can find no marriage.



Children born to Elena Garcia, registered by Nicasio Del Castillo, are all illegitimate. Rudolfo Del Castillo appears to be the last child born to Nicasio and Elena. He would have been 13 years younger than my grandmother. This child is registered with the local government by Nicasio in 1907. He was said to be the illegitimate child of Elena Garcia according to this record.

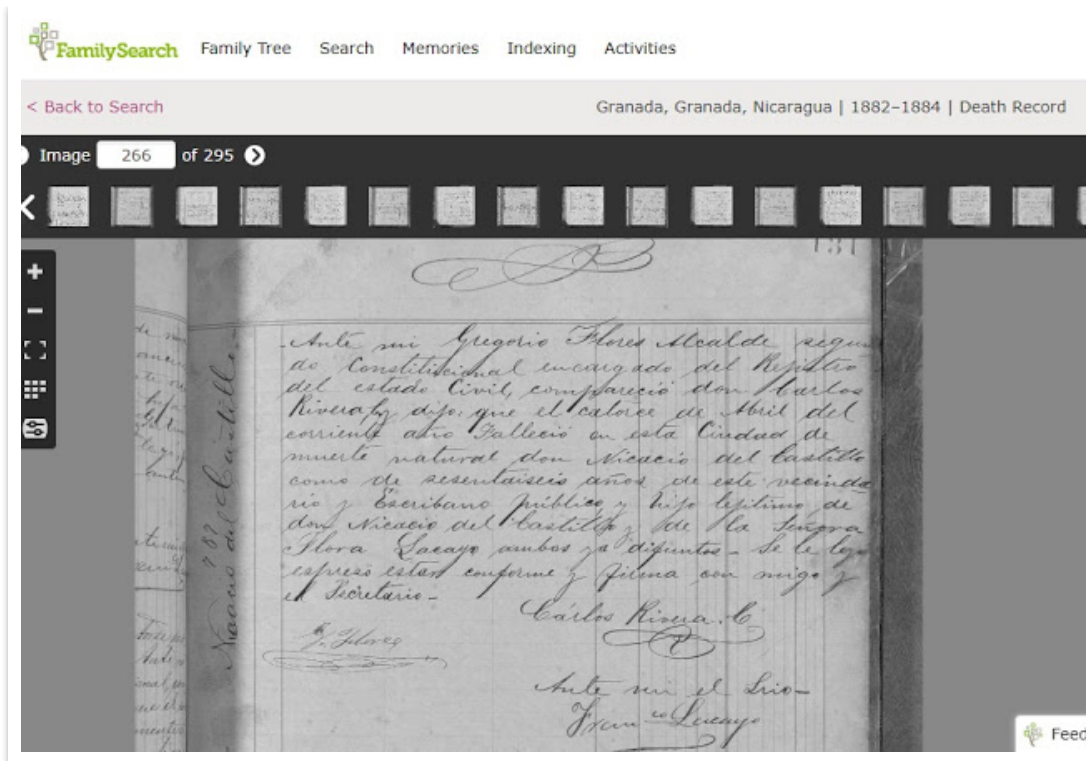


My grandmother's older brother Alberto Del Castillo claimed, according to his marriage record, that he was the legitimate child of Nicasio and Elena. My grandmother didn't know she was illegitimate until she was an adult and she asked her godfather, and cousin, Francisco Alvarado to confirm that.



Reading through the records I'm wondering if there was some impediment which prevented them from marrying? In one of the books recording illegitimate children later recognized by fathers someone said they were not allowed to contract a marriage which prevented them from marrying the mother of their children. I don't know if there were laws regarding race, or laws that prevented cousin marriage? The records sometimes raise new questions.

I knew from my previous archival research in Granada, Nicaragua that my great-great-grandfather Nicasio Del Castillo died in 1884. Thankfully I didn't have to page through many pages for that year before finding his death record. The record stated he was a notary, which in Nicaragua is the equivalent of a lawyer in this country. He was said to be the legitimate child of Nicasio Del Castillo and Flora Lacayo. Two names I have added to my tree.



I had absolutely no idea when my great-great grandfather Francisco Del Castillo died? He would have been born about 1840. No books survive for that time period. The death record would have been my best source for further confirmation of his parentage. When I searched the church records I found that his daughters Adela and Flora both died within a month of one another in 1919. The death records stated both parents were dead. Both parents were alive in 1882 I knew from the census. I did a page by page search for a death record, and any interesting information in the death records books beginning in 1882. Church records produced no information so I had to turn to the more voluminous civil registration records.

It took me days to search the civil registration. I did find a death record for my great-great grandmother Alejandra Granzio the wife of Francisco. I have still found no death record for him and 3 volumes of death records are missing, and he likely died in a year covered by one of those books.

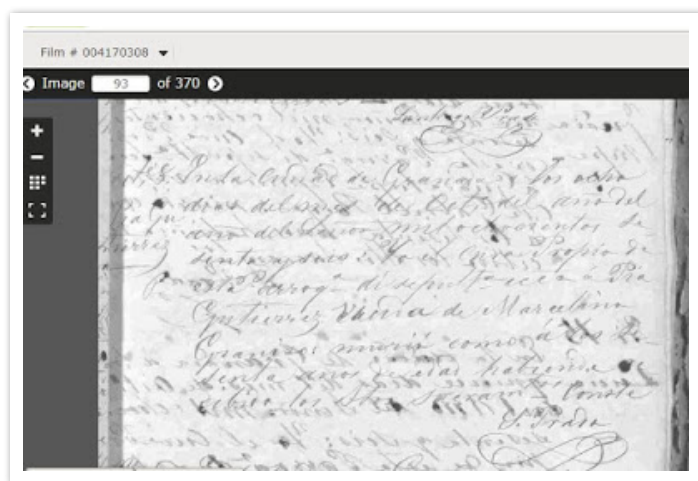
According to my great-great grandmother's death record her father's name was Marcelino Granizo. Her mother's name appears to be Gentas? I couldn't make out her last name.





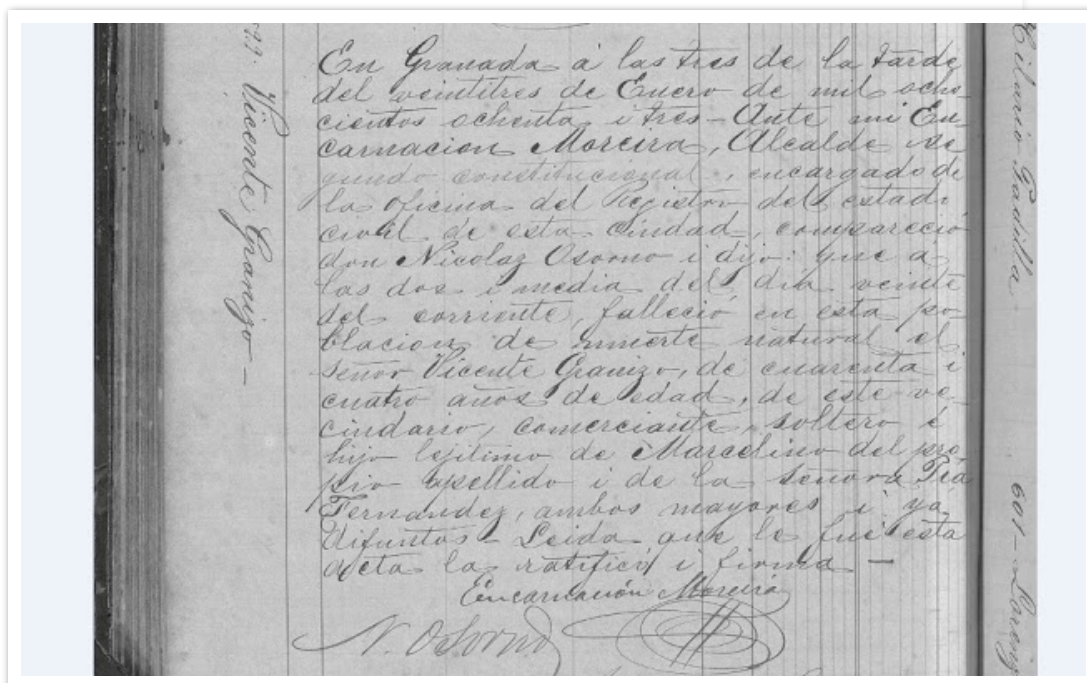
I decided next to look for records for the parents of my great-great grandmother Alejandra Granizo. The surname Granizo was very rare in Nicaragua and Spain. I love rare surnames because they don't require as much effort to research. I paged through death records because Alejandra would have been born in the 1840's and no books survive from before 1856. I began with the earliest records looking for all my family names, and for anything interesting. I noticed at the end of every year death statistics were recorded regarding the number of deaths and cause of deaths, which was interesting.

I found a death record for Alejandra's possible mother, but her name didn't match the name on her death record? A Pia Gutierrez was said to be the widow of Marcelino Granizo according to this death record. She died in 1866 at age 60. I didn't find a death record for Marcelino so I assume he died much earlier.

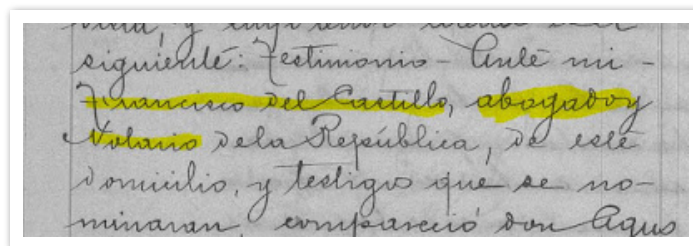


I had thought that Pia could have been Alejandra's step-mother. Going through the death records some more I found a death record for a likely brother of Alejandra. Vicente Granizo's death record says he was also the son of a Marcelino Granizo. He died in 1883 at the age of 44. If his age is correct he would have been older than his sister Alejandra. His record states his mother was Pia Fernandez. Did Marcelino marry a Pia Fernandez then a Pia Gutierrez? Possible, but I believe the informants of both deaths didn't remember the exact names of the decedents parents. They had a vague recollection the surname was a name ending in ez. My

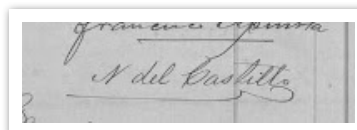
DNA results point to a relationship with a Gutierrez Nicaraguan family so I'm assuming for now that Alejandra's mother was Pia Gutierrez.



Reading through all of the records I'm so happy to see that my ancestors were educated people. I'm happy they had an opportunity to learn to read, and write and follow a course of study in the legal profession. Below my great-grandfather Francisco Del Castillo is described as a Lawyer and Notary.



My mother always said that she was sorry I never met Francisco "Padrino" Alvarado. Since I'm interested in trying to learn languages and love to travel we would have had a lot in common. I'm sorry I never met him also. She said he had a trunk that he traveled with that had stickers from all over the world. I'm sorry I was never able to meet my Del Castillo ancestors too. Their love of music and poetry would be something shared in common with me; and I'm sure we would have had much to talk about. Finally getting to see more of their records and seeing examples of their handwriting has been rewarding. If some photos surfaced of them that would be wonderful. However I'm satisfied for now anyway.





## Analyzing the Burgenland Church Records/ Can I trace my lines farther back?



I would love to connect my family with the families listed in the earliest books going back to





the latter half of the 17th Century as recorded in the Güssing books. Sadly the information provided in the earliest Rönök Parish books is very scant. No parents are listed in the marriage records for couples. In the mid 19th century the parish did begin recording parents of couples who were married. This information and the addition of house numbers allows us to confidently trace our lines back to around the late 17th Century.

How can we get our lines back beyond that without the necessary information from the church records? We do have ages from baptismal records of some of our ancestors born before 1789 as recorded in the Rönök parish books. Using these ages, however I have been unsuccessful in tracing my lines farther back. Ages didn't match up with any of the records I've found?

I decided to collect all of the information I could find on every family carrying our surnames in the Heiligenkreuz and Rönök parish books for the first half of the 19th Century, and back before 1789 in Heiligenkreuz.

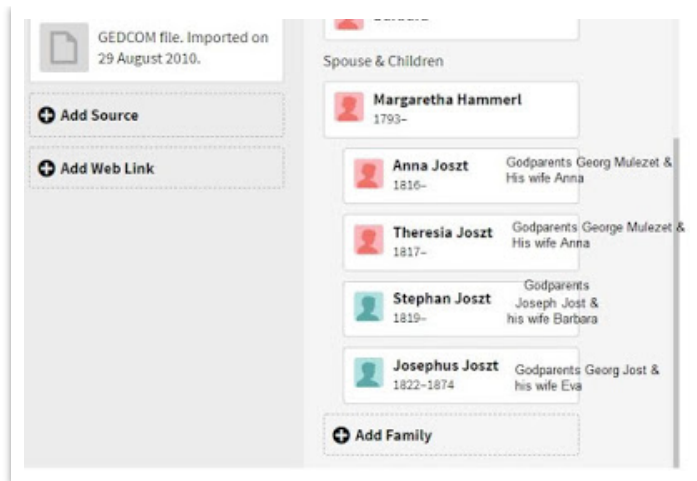
My first project when collecting all the information I could find was to collect the names of marriage witnesses and godparents in hopes of making some kind of link between my families in Rönök Parish and those in the Heiligenkreuz books.

I have collected Adam Kurta Jr. and Catharina Josts children's godparents names. Several of the children shared the same godparents. A Joanne Jost shows up several times as a godfather but that information hasn't helped me to make any connections.

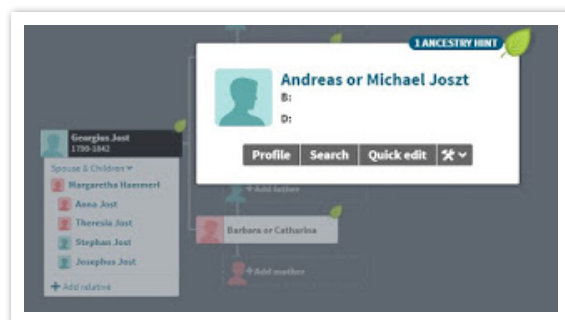
Adam Kurta &	 Catharina Jost 1766-1819	
 Joannes Kurta 1784-	Godparents Joannes Jost & Catharina Krobat	
 Georg Kurta 1787-1787	Godparent Anton Teutsch & Barbara Wolf	
 Antal Kurta 1789-1834	Godparents Anton Teutsch & Dorothea	
 Georg Kurta 1791-	Godparents Anton Teutsch & Barbara Wolf	
 Andreas Kurta 1794-	Godparents Joannes Jost & Barbara Jost	
 Catharina Kurta 1797-	Godparents Joannes Jost & Barbara Jost	
 Maria Kurta 1802-	Godparents Joannes Jost & Barbara Jost	

Georgius Jost and Margaret Hammerl's children's godparents produced some interesting results with a Georg Jost and Joseph Jost serving as godparents. Unfortunately I have not been able to create a linkage with earlier families with this information.

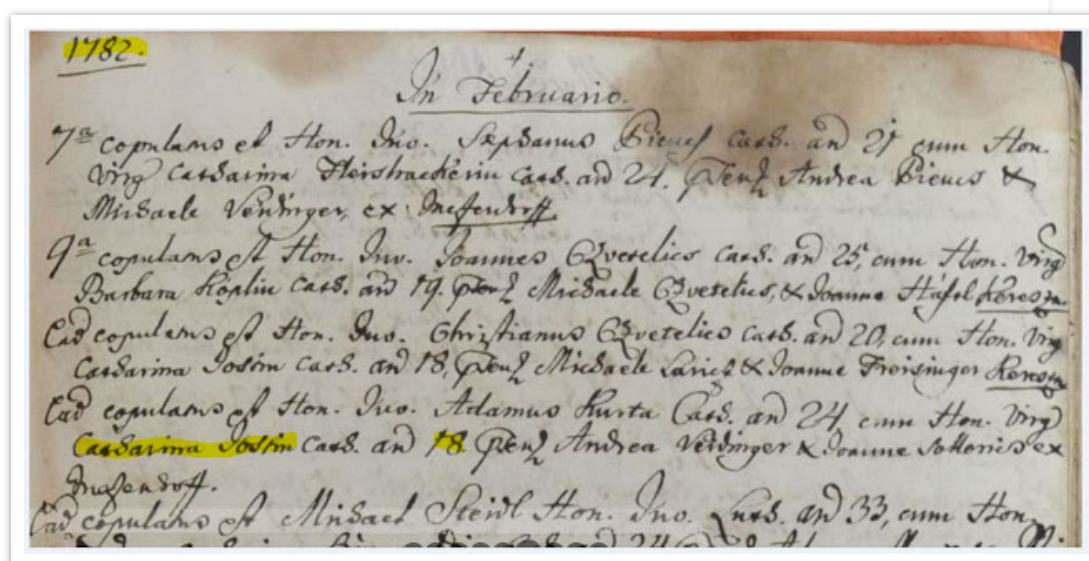




There are two good couple candidates that could be Georg Jost's parents if our Georg indeed died in 1842 and was born about 1790. There was a Georg Jost born 1790 and another born in 1788, either one could possibly be my Georg Jost. I decided to list two of the best candidate couples as parents of Georg. I can still be wrong because Georg was a popular name among the Josts.



Going through the death records for Rönök Parish I believe I found the death entries for my ancestors Adam Kurta and Catharina Jost. The age at death for Catharina matches up well with the marriage entry age for her. According to the marriage entry below Catharina would have been born about 1764.



A Catharina Kurta died in 1819 and was a widow (an Adam Kurta died a little earlier that

same year). She was 55 years old which would put her birth at about 1764 also. I believe I have found the correct death entry for her; and the Adam who died a few months previously was likely her husband. Spouses for women were sometimes included in these records, but unfortunately not always as in this case.

Annus moris. Dies.	Nomen & Cognomen defuncti	Etas.	Locus obitus.	Religio
19. Febru.	Elisabetha Stephani Veidinger & Maria Conjug. filia.	1 1/2 Ann.	Inzenhof.	Cath.
28. Febru.	Catharina Kurta. vidua Barbara. Josephi Jost & Barbara Conjug. filia.	55 Annor.	Inzenhof.	Cath.
1. Mars.	Adam Kurta. viduus & Maria Conjug. filia.	65 Annor.	Inzenhof.	Cath.

Taking the marriage and death information the closest birth entry for a Catharina Kurta is 1766. Either both of these entries are incorrect or Catharina Jost was born in a different parish?

It is also interesting that Catharina had a daughter-in-law by the same name of Catharina Jost. They both shared the same first name and maiden names, so also shared the same married surname. This must have created some confusion when referring to these women by name. This fact means I'm related to the Jost family on at least 3 different lines.

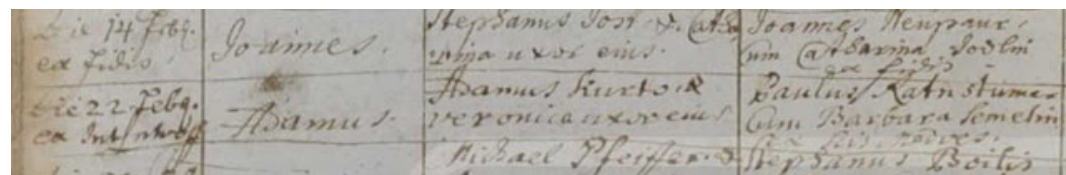
Moving on to Adam Kurta he appears to have died the same year as his wife since I have not found another death record for an Adam. Since Catharina, his wife, died in the parish of Rönök as a widow it is more than likely her husband would have died there also. I believe the 1819 death record is his.

22. Febru.	Adamus Kurta hospes.	65 Annor.	Inzenhof.	Cath.
28. Febru.	Emericus Joannis Veidinger & Maria Conjug. filia.	1 Ann. & 3 mensib.	Inzenhof.	Cath.

The above death record for Adam Kurta states he was an innkeeper (that tradition seems to continue in Inzenhof where a Kurta Gasthaus still exists). According to this entry Adam was 65 in 1819. That would put his birth at around 1754 which doesn't match up as well with his age recorded in his marriage entry. He was said to have been 24 in 1819 putting his birth around 1758.

1. Mars.	Adamus Kurta viduus & Maria Conjug. filia.	65 Annor.	Inzenhof.	Cath.
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Looking at birth records for the 1750's we do find an Adam Kurta born in 1753 in Inzenhof. His godmother was from what is today Kleinmurbisch.

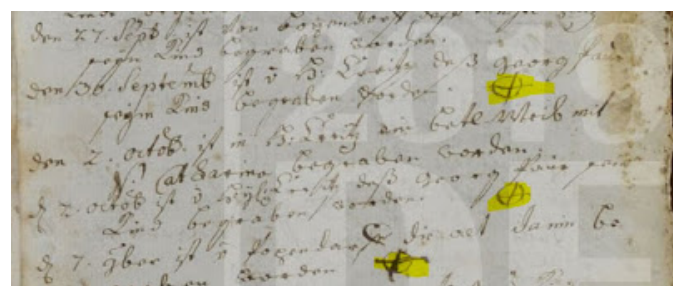


His father was also an Adam and his mother Veronica. Unfortunately the pages that covered the year 1758 are missing which makes it impossible to confirm whether there was another Adam Kurta born in 1758 (baptismal records for 1758 and 1759 are missing. I did find part of 1760 at the end of the death records for 1769 to 1791. It's possible 1758 still exists but was missed during the filming or it's mixed in with another book online?}).

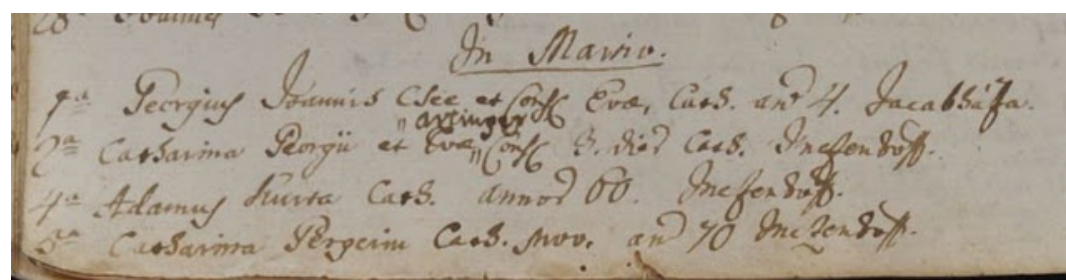
I decided I needed to go through the death entries to see if an Adam Kurta died as a child or young adult? I had not found another Adam Kurta in the death records for Rönök Parish. After searching the Rönök death records I began my search in the Heiligenkreuz books beginning my search after the 1753 birth of Adam Kurta.

Unfortunately the early death records contain scant information. Often these records have no place of residence listed. Kurta being a name that is generally only found around Inzenhof this task wouldn't have been impossible as it would have been for more common surnames like Jost, which is found in many other areas.

I wasn't even sure I was looking at the correct records when I first began searching these records. In the 1750's the death entries included a circle with a cross inside it. Once I figured out that I knew I was in the right place in the book for the years I was searching.



Sadly deaths don't seem to have been recorded for Inzenhof in the 1750's? I found only one death of Hans Wolf of Inzenhof dying in 1756. It wasn't until around 1760 that deaths seem to begin to be recorded for Inzenhof in larger numbers. When deaths began to be recorded for Inzenhof a decade later only a much older Adam Kurta is listed. The older Adam died in 1778 at the age of 60.

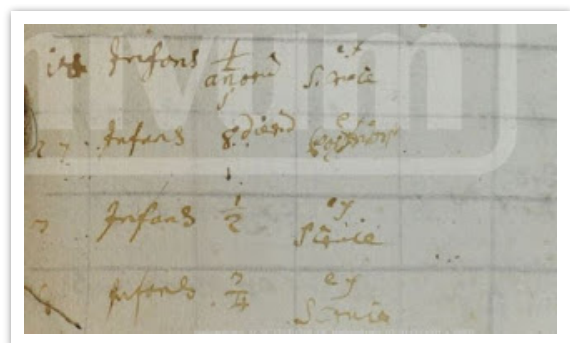


Adam Kurta died 1778 age 60 page 130

Another problem with the deaths of children and babies in the 1750's is sometimes the names of the children who died were listed as infants without a name. These children were

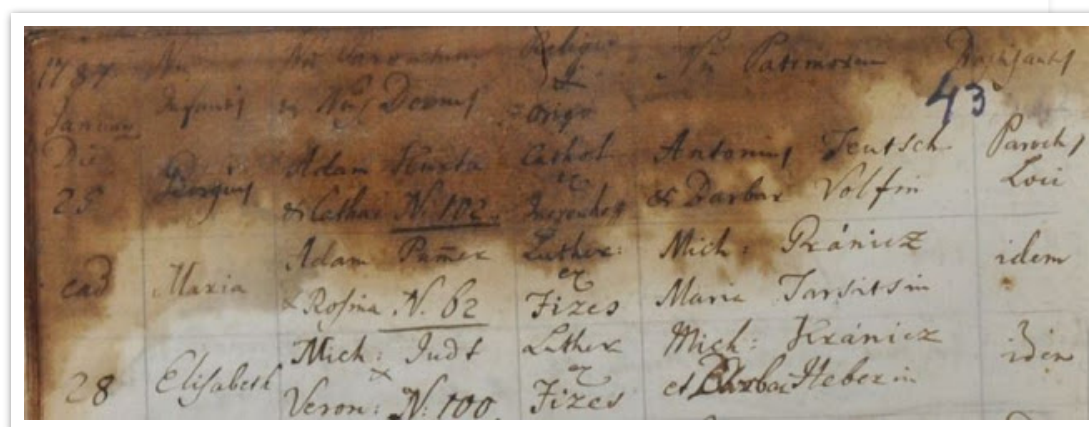


probably never baptized



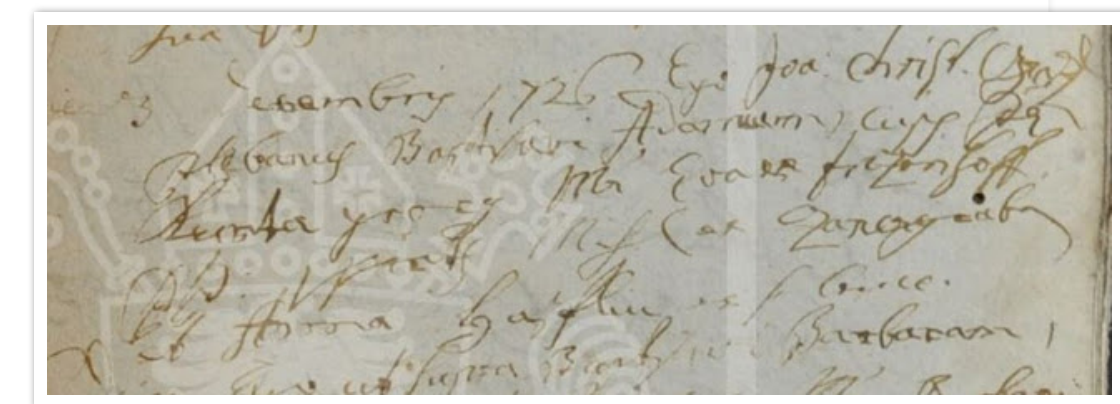
As time went on more information and full names were provided for infants and children who died, which included parents names.

Combing through the records I did find my Adam Kurta and Catharina Jost lived at house #102.



Adam not being as commonly used as Joanne or Georg, for instance, I think it's very possible that Adam son of Adam Kurta and Veronica is the same man that married Catharina Jost in 1782, and therefore would be my ancestor. I'm adding Adam senior and Veronica to my tree even though I'm not able to verify these relationships.

There is an Adam Kurta born 1726 who might be Adam Kurta senior? He was the son of a Georg Kurta and Eva.



Collecting up the names of Adam Kurta Sr. and Veronica's children's godparents they have some Kepl or Kopl godparents which is another one of my lines. Like Adam Kurta the younger these children also have Jost godparents. The name Rottenstrumer indicates a



connection with Kleinmurbisch.

Adam Kurta &	Veronica
Georg Kurta 1749-	Godparents Georg Jost & Eva Kepl
Joannes Kurta 1751-	Godparents Georg Kopf & Veronica Kepl
Adam Kurta 1753-1819	Godparents Paul Rottenstrumer & Barbara Simit
Catharina Kurta 1762-	Godparents Georg Pinter & Eva Jost

A fun fact I discovered researching these books is a potential ancestor Catharina Kluim had illegitimate children with at least two different men. There may be more if I look more carefully?

18<sup>a</sup> illegimus Georgi Hollinger Andrea Aringer Cas. Inesentp.  
Barbara Casarina Kluim Veronica Vendinger  
P. in. h. h. Michael Veiner c. s. P. h. h.

In Sumiv  
Die 6<sup>a</sup> Joannu  
17<sup>a</sup> illegimus Joannu Kappel Andrea Aringer  
Andreas Casarina Kluim Casarina Bivorum Cas. Inesentp.

### In conclusion

The details I've found useful in attempting to extend lines back are ages at marriage and death which have been helpful. Place names are helpful when included. Briefly in the latter half of the 17th Century house numbers were included with book entries for Heiligenkreuz. Marital status can also be helpful when it comes to death records. Someone listed as a widow or widower can be a helpful clue. I did find one occupation which can be useful sometimes. Witnesses and godparents can provide clues to relationships also.

I believe the Parish books for Kleinmurbisch will be very helpful in furthering my research. A distant cousin living in Austria said the books for Heiligenbrunn may also contain some entries for our ancestors? I might find some of my new conclusions are wrong if I find ancestors such as Catharina Jost in the Kleinmurbisch book in the year 1764 when her marriage and death records indicate she was born. Additional Gussing books would also be helpful too. I'm looking forward to seeing more books online.



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Posted by [Annette](#) at [12:39 PM](#)

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

I am using this blog to record my genealogy research progress. My research at this point is concentrated in Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania records. Since many of my ancestors ended up in the Midwest and West my research sometimes takes me in that direction. I also research Irish records.

[Home](#)[My Pedigree Charts](#)[Research Goals](#)

Thursday, August 20, 2020

## Using Newspapers Can Lead To Some Surprises/ They could lead to photos

Newspapers have proven to be my best resource the past month. A photo posted at [FamilySearch](#) for my great-uncle who was killed in WWII led me back to researching in newspapers.

I've been searching for a photo of my great-uncle William Kappel for years. I was so happy to see his photo in the photo hints at [Familysearch.org](#). The photo below obviously looks like it came from a newspaper.



There was no source citation at [FamilySearch](#). I did a little digging and found the same photo was attached to his [Find A Grave](#) page. There was only a link to a source for the photo at [Find A Grave](#). The link took me to the [Field of Honor](#) site for Margraten Netherlands American Cemetery. I had contributed to my great-uncle's page before. I was contacted by the cemetery for a photo of William. Unfortunately my family didn't have one. I'm very glad they found one.



### Search This Blog

### My Blog List




**Arlene Eakle's Tennessee Blog**  
Tennessee  
Ancestors—Mostly  
Military Evidence  
Found in Early  
Land Claims  
6 days ago



**Geneabloggers**  
Happy October  
2020  
Blogiversaries  
2 weeks ago

### Followers

Place of death:	In the vicinity of Dudendstadt, Germany
Spot:	Not available
Awards:	Purple Heart
Gravnumber:	Plot K, Row 18, Grave 22
Cemetery:	American War Cemetery Margraten
Biography:	-
Other information:	Before entering the army November 14, 1942, Pvt Kappel was employed by the General American Transportation Co. His wife, shortly before his induction, joined the war workers at the Pullman shipyards and on April 29, 1944, she was signaled out because of her faithful service to christen the first LSM (landing ship medium).



Source of information: Raf Dyckmans, Annette Kappel, Astrid van Erp, [www.abmc.gov](http://www.abmc.gov), [www.wwiimemorial.com](http://www.wwiimemorial.com), [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) - Headstone and Interment Record, [www.history.army.mil](http://www.history.army.mil), [www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar](http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar), [www.newspaperarchive.com](http://www.newspaperarchive.com) - Chicago South End Reporter

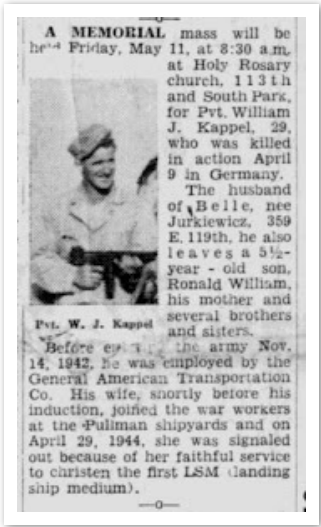
Photo source: [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) - Des Philippet / Annette Kappel, [www.newspaperarchive.com](http://www.newspaperarchive.com) - Chicago South End Reporter

Thank goodness there was a source citation on William Kappel's page. I had not been to his page in quite a while and didn't know a photo was added.

According to the citation the photo appeared in a newspaper called the Chicago South End Reporter, which was accessed through [newspaperarchive.com](http://newspaperarchive.com). I tried to find that paper available online for free at [Chronicling America](http://ChroniclingAmerica) and other not for profit sites, but I couldn't find it anywhere else.

I then went to the paid subscription [newspaperarchive.com](http://newspaperarchive.com) site to find the photo. There was no date or page number in the citation so I searched on his name, William J Kappel, and filtered my search for just the newspaper in question. This didn't produce any links to the photo I was looking for. I thought maybe the name was just misspelled but even using variant spellings the correct entry never came up.

What I finally decided to do was to search page by page through the Chicago Southend Reporter for the period just after his death. Doing this, bingo, he appeared on the front page of that paper a few weeks after his death. The photo was part of an obituary.

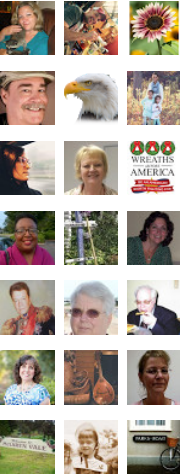


I'm thrilled to finally have a photo of my war hero great-uncle William Kappel. The additional information about his work at Pullman and his wife and son are also nice to have. Most of my Chicago family members were employed by Pullman.

The success I had with this newspaper research spurred me to do more. I noticed that another newspaper site, [newspapers.com](http://newspapers.com), had the Mattoon Journal Gazette available. My Mason/Owens ancestors lived in Mattoon from the mid 19th Century.

I had used newspaperarchive.com before so I was familiar with the filters at that site. Generally their filters worked well for me in the past, but failed to bring up the correct article this time. I noticed that [newspapers.com](http://newspapers.com) has fewer filters, which were harder to use I

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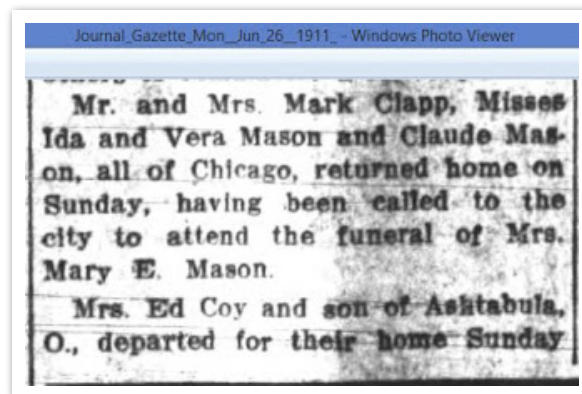
thought. Narrowing dates and finding specific newspapers was a little more difficult for me at [newspapers.com](http://newspapers.com).

When searching for my Mason family in the Mattoon Journal Gazette I was able to get some hits just searching on the surname using the search feature. I was surprised at how few entries there were. Usually you find obituaries, and visiting reports when someone took a trip. I was just finding a few mentions regarding illnesses in the family.

Learning from my previous experiences I decided to check the paper just after my great-great grandparents Peter Mason and Mary E. Owens-Mason died. I was able to find write ups about their deaths by using this strategy.

I was thinking there had to be an easier way to find the family in the papers. I then decided to use quotation marks and search for each individual family member. That produced much better results. I think I've covered the Mattoon Journal Gazette pretty thoroughly now.

I found several articles about the 1911 death of my great-great grandmother Mary E. Owens-Mason. Each mention included more names of people traveling to Mattoon to attend her funeral. Most of the Mason family, including Mary, relocated to Chicago around the turn of the 20th century. Mary died in Chicago in 1911 as detailed in the obituary below.



- 2016 (24)
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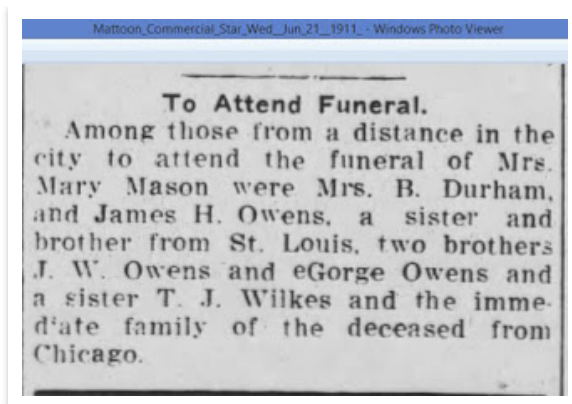
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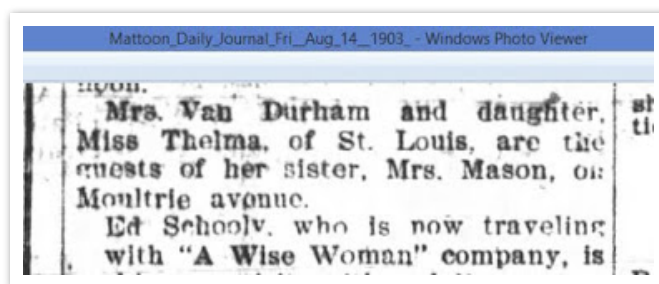
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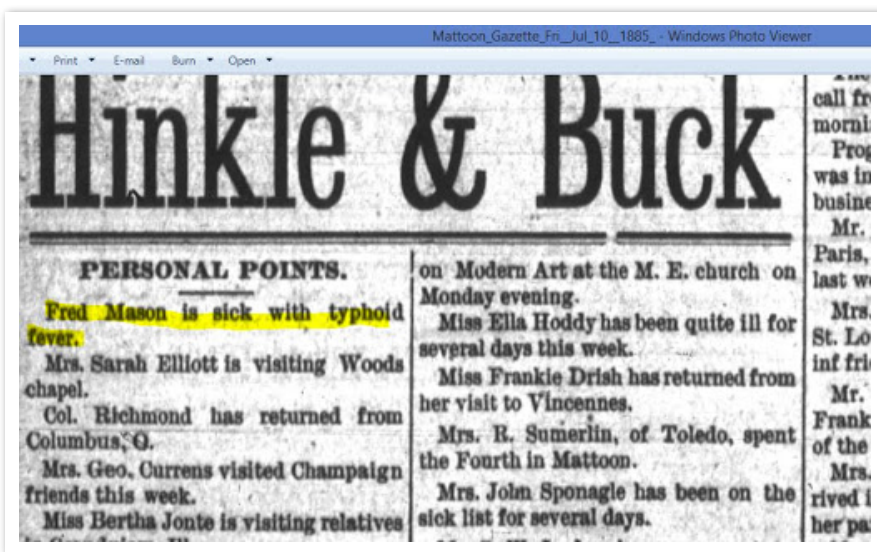


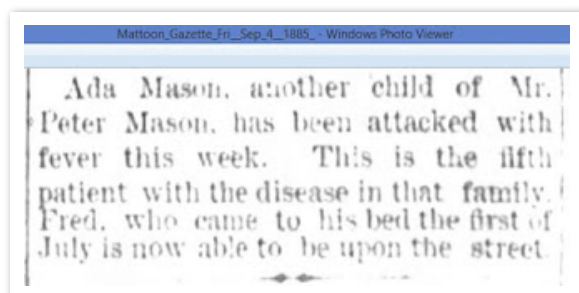
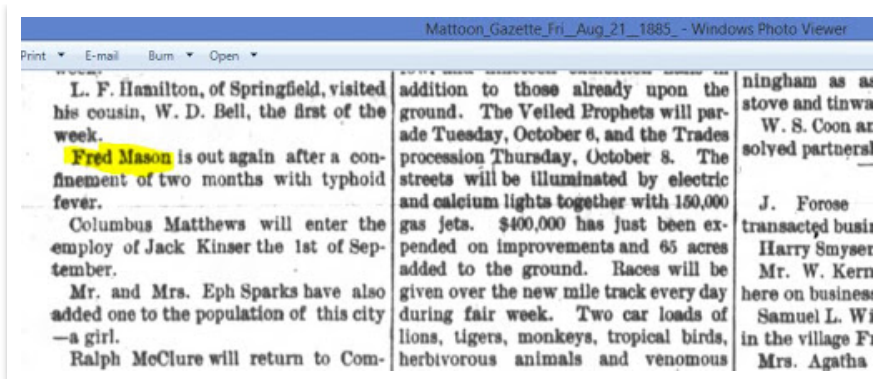
There were a number of visiting notices in the paper for my Mason/Owens family. These notices were always very common. People love to see their names in the paper, which I'm sure increased subscriptions. I already knew Josie Durham was my great-grandmother Mary's sister. If I hadn't known, this could have turned out to be a key piece of information linking the two women. What is interesting is the address. I didn't have the name of the street where the family lived. Another newspaper notice gives the address of 4th street. It sounds like they lived on the corner of 4th street and Moultrie in Mattoon.



I'm happy with where my research stands on the Mason/Masson family line, but would like more documentation for Mary Owens-Mason's family. I was so happy to see Mary's siblings listed as attending her funeral. This is further confirmation of her lineage. I will need to research some of the other names of people attending to find out if they are relatives?

I found a few references to my great-grandfather Fred Mason. The first references refer to his battle with typhoid fever along with the rest of his family in 1885.



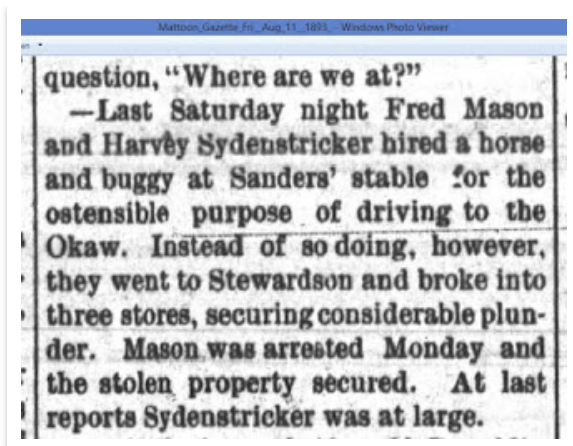


Ada Mason was unlucky health wise because later she was also diagnosed with blood poisoning.

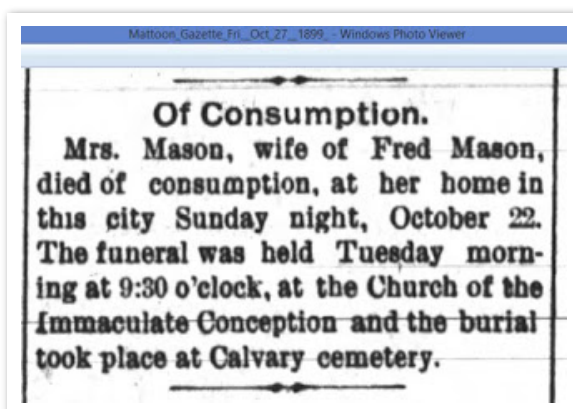


Ada and her sister Ida were staunch Catholics according to the many articles I've found for them participating in church activities. Ada apparently was considering becoming a nun according to an article in the Mattoon Journal Gazette. Ada is often mentioned as a singer for Catholic masses and other entertainments.

My great-grandfather Fred Mason wasn't that strictly religious apparently; he was arrested for theft in 1893. His son Claude followed in his footsteps which I will expand on in another blog post.

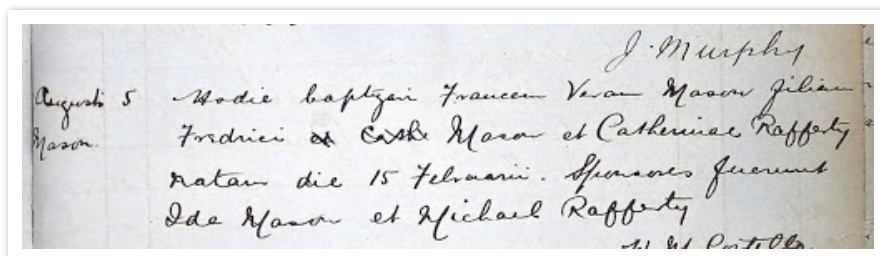


I discovered something that surprised me. I didn't know my great-grandfather was married before he married my great-grandmother Helen Mullen. I am surprised it took me 20 years to find this out. I found a death notice for his first wife in the Mattoon Journal Gazette. Catherine or Kathleen Rafferty-Mason died on 22 October 1899. I was able to find a tree for this couple at Ancestry.

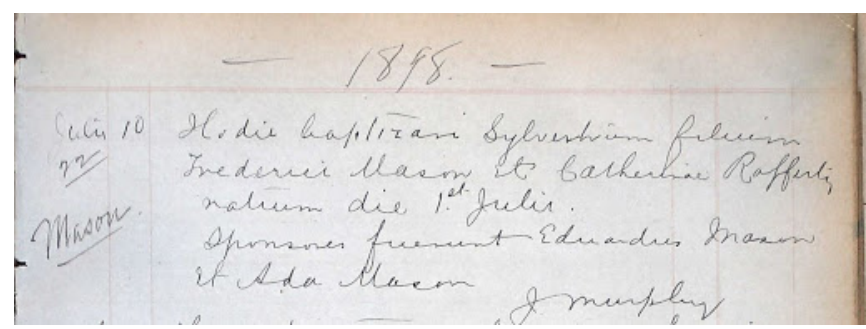


This tree also listed two children born to this marriage. I had noticed these two children, named Vera and Claude, listed with their grandmother Mary on the 1900 and 1910 Census. In 1900 they were listed as her children, but in 1910 they were correctly identified as grandchildren. I had assumed they were illegitimate children of one of Mary's daughters.

I was able to confirm Vera and Claude were the children of Fred Mason and his first wife using Catholic church records for the Springfield diocese in Illinois.

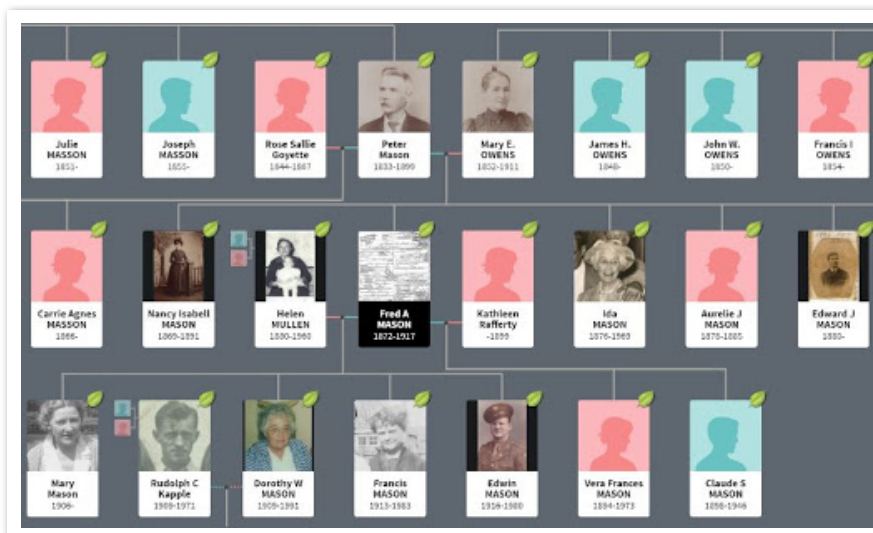






*Claude's godparents were his aunt Ada and uncle Edward*

The most important result of my search for confirmation of Fred's first marriage was discovering family photos attached to the tree of a descendant of Vera Mason, my grandmother's half sister. I had never seen a photo of my great-great grandparents Peter Mason and Mary E. Owens-Mason. That was a very exciting find! The photos also included some of their children which I had never seen before. Unfortunately I still don't have a photo of my great-grandfather Fred Mason.



Using online newspapers requires some experimentation when it comes to the search features provided. Filters sometimes help narrow the search. Using quotation marks can help too. And sometimes you just have to search page by page. I don't assume anymore the search provided will pick up all references to a family. It is worth the time and effort because the information helps fill in the stories of our families.

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

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Saturday, September 12, 2020

## A Southern California Family Through the Years/ Sorting through family photos

### Introduction

My maternal grandparents first settled in California in 1925. Charles Lynn Forgey and his Nicaraguan born wife Graciela del Castillo met while my Indiana born grandfather was serving in that country as a US Marine. My mother was born in Nicaragua in 1921. I was born in California in 1963 (I was my parents only child born when my mother was 42). Traces of an earlier era in California could still be seen when I was a young child. My parents also shared their stories of early days. My father's recollection of Southern California history only went back to the period just after WWII when his family migrated to Los Angeles from Chicago.

Most of the photos below were recently sent to me by an Aunt and I'm still trying to identify some of the people in them.

My mother Edna Forgey-Kapple's memory went back to California in the 1920's. She passed away in 2015. She often shared her early memories of California.

Her earliest memory was arriving at the port of Los Angeles in 1925. Her father was already in California and met her mother and herself at the dock with a Nicaraguan family friend. The Nicaraguan recently relocated to California and he asked my 4 year old mother if she remembered him, which she did.

### 1920's thru 1930's

The photo below was taken of my mother Edna soon after the family arrived in California in 1925. The palm trees remind me of a song about California. The song "Home In Pasadena" lyrics talk about being "under the palms in someone's arms".



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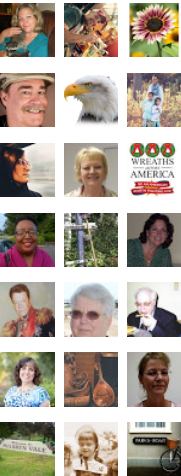


Another photo my family kept shows a little girl standing in the yard of a palm lined street. This little girl is named Mary Rita and she died as a child according to the back. Unfortunately there is no surname to identify her?



There is a shadow of a palm in this photo.

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The family originally settled in bungalow court style housing in San Pedro. The photo below would have been taken in late 1926 after my aunt Grace was born. As you can see she was just learning to walk.



The photo below was likely taken at Venice, California where canals were dug to imitate the Venetian Canals. Spending time at the beach would have been nice for the family in the hot summers in California.

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## About Me



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## Feedjit



About 1928 my family relocated from the beach area to the hot dry San Fernando Valley. Sadly I don't think we have any photos of that first house. The photo below may have been taken in the yard of the house my grandfather built in La Cresenta.



Below is a photo of the entire Forgey brood somewhere in their new location home in the San Fernando Valley.



When the depression hit in 1929 the family lost the house and property and began renting houses in nearby Glendale. The house below is one of the houses the family rented in the 1930's. Blue collar working class workers generally lived in 2 bedroom 1 bath houses of about 900 or 1000 sq ft. Highly skilled blue collar workers could live in larger two story houses that were probably 1400 to 2000 sq ft. It was generally white collar workers who lived in the 2 story craftsman houses however. In the 1930's apartments began to be popular with renters from working class families.



This photo appears to be a photo taken in front of a similar house. The rock pillars were a typical feature of California bungalows. Large rocks are numerous in the mountains near Glendale. The photo appears to be of my aunt Grace one of her twin brothers and aunt Dorothy. I enhanced the photo and colorized it at My Heritage.





Play dates were appear to have been popular with mothers and children spending time playing and chatting.



Here my mother Edna (in the print dress) is hanging out with her fellow girls scouts and her siblings. The blonde girl far left is the troop leader Bunny's daughter.





Friends of the Forgey family sporting the latest fashions sometimes appear in the family photos.



Someone called the "First Lady of Glendale" Dora Verdugo became a friend of the family in Glendale. Her family received a 36,000 acre Spanish land grant covering all of what today is Glendale. The photos below appear to have been given to our family by Dora. The portrait photo appears to be of her, and the group photo was likely taken near the old Verdugo homestead and adobe. Dora said her heart was always a part of that place.





The outings the family took from home were similar to the rest of the community. In Southern California we do something called "going to the snow" in winter. In many parts of the country the snow comes to you, but in most of California we have to go to the mountains to find it.



More snow photos from the late 1920's or early 1930's. They may have been taken at Lake Arrowhead, California?



Being a hot place in summer the family spent time relaxing away from home. Below we find the Forgey family spending the day at Big Tujunga creek not far from Glendale.



Many years the family would pack into their old model T and head to the beach. They would camp at Laguna beach and my grandfather would fish in nearby San Clemente.

The photos below show family and friends at the beach. Its interesting that the women are dressed up in heels on the beach.







The family would often join friends and family at the beach. The photo below appears to be of Francisco Alvarado Granizo and his wife Germaine taken in the 1920's or 1930's. Francisco was grandmother Graciela's cousin and godfather.





The family also loved taking a boat out to Catalina Island off the California coast.

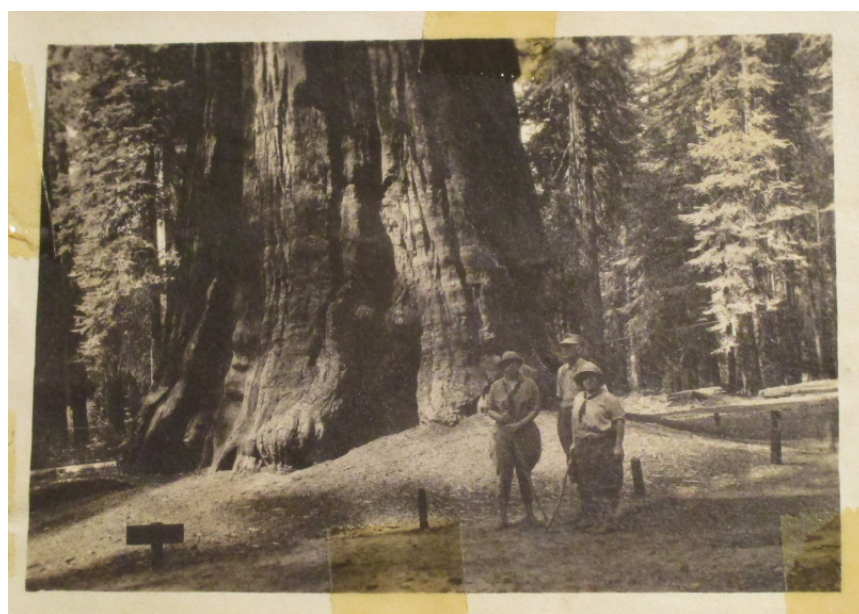


Picnicking was a popular pastime in early to mid century California. State themed picnics drew thousands of people. The Iowa picnic in Ontario and the All States picnic in Long Beach were very popular. I'm not sure where the picnic below took place or who sponsored it? The photo shows a typical park of that era and the Forgey children have grown from earlier photos.





The family could also travel farther north to Sequoia.



Life was far from all play, during the Great Depression especially. My grandfather Charles Forgey worked as a carpenter when the family first arrived in California. During the early 30's he trained to become a landscape gardener. He loved being outdoors, living in small houses with a large family I can understand why. He worked at some very posh residences during his gardening career in the Los Angeles area. Below you can see one of the houses he worked at through the trees.





The photo of the women with the dogs may have been taken in a clients yard? My grandmother toured a kennel at a home my grandfather worked at and she said the dogs lived better than her family. Apparently the family was wealthy enough to provide a very comfortable roomy kennel for the dogs.



When my grandfather Charles Forgey wasn't working he enjoyed painting. Below his wife and children are in front of their house with some of his paintings. He enjoyed photography also.



Underneath the normal appearances in the photos there was the ugly reality of the Great Depression followed by WWII.

My mother felt the stigma of many who received handouts meant to discourage people from seeking assistance. My mother told me that she received a coat given to people on relief and the coat made those wearing it stand out. I'm thinking the striped coat she has in this photo was probably what she was referring to? It would definitely make you conspicuous.



Some thought an easy way out of the difficult economic times for their families would be to get their children into show business. Many children in Glendale were enrolled in the Meglin Kiddies dance school. Children from that school often appeared in Our Gang shorts.

As you can see from the photo below a distant Nicaraguan cousin hoped to make it big in show business someday. Here she is dressed for a hoped for movie role.

**1940's thru 1950's**

Around 1940 the Forgey family stopped renting houses in Glendale and purchased a house and some property in Puente, California (La Puente now). The Forgeys had enough land to start a small farm. Below the now older Forgey children, and friend, stand next to some of the crops.



Below my mother and grandfather sit in front of the Forgey family home in Puente. My Forgey grandparents owned the house for over 35 years.



Soon after the family moved to Puente WWII started. The economic situation improved but the rationing and blackouts made life challenging. My grandfather got a job working at Douglas Aircraft in shipping and receiving. He was able to afford to add an additional bedroom to the two room house.

Below is a photo of Aunt Grace and her date at the prom for El Monte High School students. She worked at a candy stand in Los Angeles in order to buy a formal dress.



Below the Forgey teens, and older sister and friend, line up in the traditional style in the Forgey yard.





The Forgey boys were too young to serve in the military during WWII. Forgey family and friends did serve and sent their photos to the family.



My grandfather continued his outdoor lifestyle continuing to garden, and sit in his favorite place on his front porch. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and traveling to the High Sierras. Below he is in his yard caring for his extensive gun collection.



My twin uncles joined the Navy as soon as they were old enough in the late 1940's.



The photo of uncles Charles and Cecil dressed as sailors was a portent of their future stint in the Navy.



Children again were photographed at the Forgey home as grandchildren were born.



The California tradition of going to the snow continued after the move to the San Gabriel Valley. Here we see my aunts and uncles spending a day in the mountain snow.



Here I am in the snow as a child. Continuing the California tradition in the 1970's.



My grandfather's brother Claude and his wife visited the family in 1957.



This was just a sampling of the many photos my family has taken here in California over the decades.

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Posted by **Annette** at **1:33 PM**

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# AK'S Genealogy Research

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Monday, November 16, 2020

## Did My Great-Great Uncle Thomas Mullen Come To America? Clearing up conflicting information

I began researching my Irish roots around the year 2000. I ordered microfilms of Irish records from the LDS Family History Library in Salt Lake City to view church records and census records at my local Family History Center. Now many of these records can be found online at several websites.

My Great-Great-Uncle Thomas Mullen appeared on the 1901 Census in his parents Patrick and Mary Mullen's household. In 1911 he wasn't listed in that household and I couldn't spot him in another household.

**CENSUS OF IRELAND, 1901.**  
FORM A.  
HOUSEHOLD OF THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY AND THEIR VISIBLE DESCENDANTS, RESIDENTS, etc., who sleep or reside in this House on the night of SUNDAY, the 31st of MARCH, 1901.

NAME AND SEX	RELATIONSHIP	AGE	DATE OF BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH	EDUCATION	RELIGION	REMARKS
Patrick Mullen	Head	40	1861	County Wick		Roman Catholic	
Mary Mullen	Wife	35	1866	County Wick		Roman Catholic	
Thomas Mullen	Son	17	1884	County Wick	Scholar	Roman Catholic	
James Mullen	Son	15	1886	County Wick		Roman Catholic	
Michael Mullen	Son	13	1888	County Wick		Roman Catholic	
Robert Mullen	Son	11	1890	County Wick		Roman Catholic	

**CENSUS OF IRELAND, 1911.**  
FORM A.  
HOUSEHOLD OF THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY AND THEIR VISIBLE DESCENDANTS, RESIDENTS, etc., who sleep or reside in this House on the night of SUNDAY, the 2nd of APRIL, 1911.

NAME AND SEX	RELATIONSHIP	AGE	DATE OF BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH	EDUCATION	RELIGION	REMARKS
Patrick Mullen	Head	50	1861	County Wick		Roman Catholic	
Mary Mullen	Wife	40	1871	County Wick		Roman Catholic	
Thomas Mullen	Son	27	1884	County Wick	Scholar	Roman Catholic	
James Mullen	Son	17	1894	County Wick		Roman Catholic	
Michael Mullen	Son	15	1896	County Wick		Roman Catholic	
Robert Mullen	Son	13	1898	County Wick		Roman Catholic	

That made me suspicious early on that he may have come to America. Michael Mullen being the eldest son meant he would have been the heir to the family land in Pollaturick, Co.



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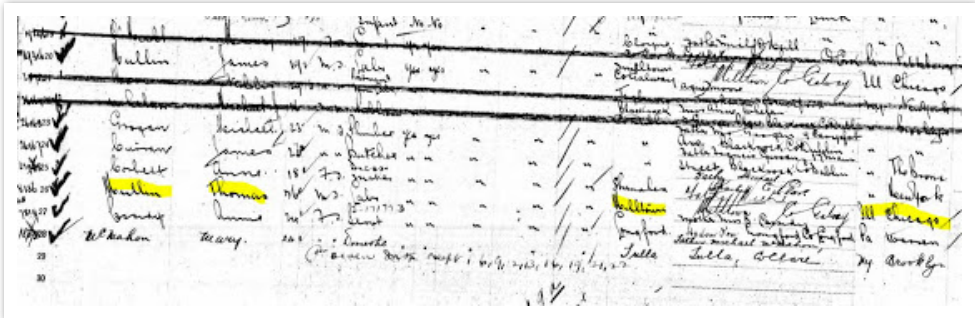
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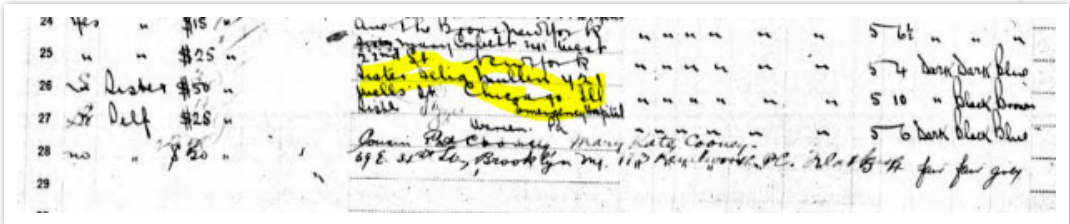
Galway, Ireland. Thomas would have had to make his own way in Ireland or migrate to another country with more opportunities.

I searched the US passenger lists for a Thomas coming from the same area and around the same age as our Thomas. Pollaturick was the townland in Co. Galway my family came from. That being a very small, and difficult to spell, place name those who migrated from there instead gave the name of the nearest town as the place where they came from. Milltown was the nearest town to Pollaturick .

Here we find a Thomas listed on the Ellis Island passenger lists from Milltown. This Thomas arrived in America in 1910 before the 1911 Census for Ireland. He was also headed to Chicago where my Great-Grandmother Helen Mullen-Mason lived.



Instead of listing his sister Helen , my Great-Grandmother, as the sister he is going to join he names Delia Mullen of Wells Street in Chicago. Delia is a nickname for Bridget. I knew my Great-Grandmother's sister Bridget came to America where she became a BVM Nun.



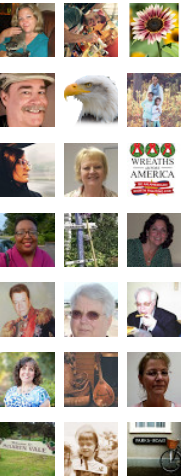
The problem with this is Thomas said his father's name was Michael not Patrick. Thomas did have an Uncle named Michael who lived on the same plot of land as his parents. The land was inherited by his Uncle and Father.

I noticed a James Mullen from Milltown came on the same ship with Thomas. James was also coming from Milltown and headed for Chicago. This James also said his father's name was Michael, but he was coming to join his brother Patrick, not his sister Delia, at the same address as Thomas 421 Wells St, Chicago Illinois. This address appears to have been the location of a bar where family members seemed to have stayed until they married or found work. Apparently Patrick and Michael Mullen had a sister who married a Jennings. Members of the Jennings family ran a bar in Chicago where family members rejoin family after migrating.

All of this information is helpful but doesn't prove anything. Mistakes were often made on documents. I needed to verify that Michael Mullen had children named Delia and Thomas. We know that Patrick and Mary had a daughter named Bridget and a son named Thomas from civil registration records and census records.

Did Michael and Mary Mullen have children named Delia and Thomas? I wasn't able to find children by these names for this couple. It does appear, looking at the censuses, they did have a son James who isn't listed in Pollaturick in 1911, so that seems to support the fact he was the James on the passenger list with Thomas in 1910. Patrick, who was also on the

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1901 census, is also missing from the 1911 census suggesting he was the brother James said he was going to join in Chicago.

#### Residents of a house 3 in Pollaturick (Milltown, Galway)

☐ Show all information

Surname	Forename	Age	Sex	Relation to head	Religion
Mullin	Michael	50	Male	Head of Family	Roman Cathk
Mullin	Ellen	13	Female	Daughter	Roman Cathk
Mullin	Patrick	12	Male	Son	Roman Cathk
Mullin	James	10	Male	Son	Roman Cathk
Mullin	Mary	8	Female	Daughter	Roman Cathk
Mullin	Mark	3	Male	Son	Roman Cathk

- 2016 (24)
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#### Residents of a house 4 in Pollaturick (Milltown, Galway)

☐ Show all information

Surname	Forename	Age	Sex	Relation to head	Religion
Mullin	Michael	66	Male	Head of Family	Roman Catholic
Mullin	Mary	16	Female	Daughter	Roman Catholic
Mullin	Michael	15	Male	Son	Roman Catholic
Mullin	Mark	13	Male	Son	Roman Catholic
Mullin	Martin	12	Male	Son	Roman Catholic

The fact that I had not been able to find a Thomas and Delia doesn't prove that was he actually was the son of Patrick and Mary Mullen but does suggest he was more than likely their son. A mistake was likely made on the 1910 passenger list.

My research on Thomas stood there until recently. My Uncle Ted and cousin Judy shared some photos with me, one of which included Helen Mullen-Mason and her sister Bridget aka Delia, aka Sister Mary Kathleen, and an unknown man.



I wondered if the unknown man could have been Thomas their brother?

I decided to try to confirm that Thomas came to this country and search for any photos of him posted online.

I found a WWI Draft Card for him at Ancestry.com which also suggested that Thomas had indeed come to America and settled in Chicago. He gave the name and address of my



Great-Grandmother Helen Mullen-Mason, Mrs. Fred Mason, which was the strongest proof yet of a link to my family. I felt confident that Thomas came to this country after seeing this but wanted a document stating who his parents were and an identified photo of him to compare with.

**REGISTRATION CARD**

SERIAL NUMBER: 5556 INDEX: A.3350

NAME: Thomas Mullen

RESIDENT ADDRESS: 156 Hill Chicago Cook Ill

Age in Years: 34 Months: 4 Date of Birth: 4 1884

RACE: White

U. S. CITIZEN: Naturalized

PRESENT OCCUPATION: Saloon EMPLOYER'S NAME: Cornelia Wiley

NEAREST RELATIVE: Mrs. Fred Mason

Address: 537 W. 45th Chicago Cook Ill

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE

THOMAS MULLEN

The draft card provided a physical description of Thomas Mullen. He is described as tall with black hair, and gray eyes. The 1910 Passenger list for Thomas Mullen said he was 5'10 and had brown eyes and black hair. I found that eye color can be interpreted in many ways especially if someone had hazel eyes the color description can vary from document to document. In 1918 I would say he would have been considered tall. The man in the photo also is taller than his sisters who were about 5'4 to 5'6 .

12-2-18-C

**REGISTRAR'S REPORT**

DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT

HEIGHT			BUILD			COLOR OF EYES	COLOR OF HAIR
Tall	Medium	Short	Slender	Medium	Stout		
21	22	23	24	25	26	Gray	Black

27 Has person lost arm, leg, hand, eye, or is he obviously physically disqualified? (Specify.)

No.

I was also able to locate a naturalization index record online for Thomas. The witnesses on this card are Mark Jennings and Fredrick Bennett. The date of birth is the same as the draft card but he was living at a different address in Chicago in 1915. Mark Jennings would have been a cousin of Thomas.



In 1940 a Thomas P. Mullen is working in a Cotton Mill in Phoenix, Arizona. He is 55 years old on census day which was April 1st 1940. He was born in Ireland also. This matches with our Thomas would have turned 56 in May of that year.

State Arizona Incorporated place Phoenix City Ward of city \_\_\_\_\_ Unincorporated place \_\_\_\_\_  
 County Maricopa Township or other division of county Superstition Block Nos. \_\_\_\_\_ Institution \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Name of institution and town on which address are)

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BUREAU OF CENSUS 16-41278

LOCATIONS	HOUSEHOLD DATA	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION	EDUCATION	PLACE OF BIRTH	IN WEAT FLA
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	186 146 1500	Broome, Henry J.	Head	W 44	no 7	Georgia	no 1
2	147 146 1500	Marshall, Thomas	Wife	W 55	no 7	Illinois	no 1
3	148 146 1500	Nimble, S. H.	Wife	W 18	no 3	Indiana	no 1

I was not able to find a good match for Thomas anywhere else in the country so I figured these census entries were likely for him or maybe he went back to Ireland?

Concentrating on Arizona I finally had a breakthrough. I found an obituary for our Thomas Mullen from 1966 confirming Bridget "Delia" or Sister Mary Kathleen was indeed his sister. It also states Edwin Mason was his nephew. Edwin was the son of Helen Mullen-Mason my Great-Grandmother. My Great-Grandmother died in 1960, which is likely why her name isn't included. I'm not sure why other nieces and nephews weren't mentioned? My Grandmother Dorothy Mason-Kapple wasn't mention nor her siblings Mary or Frank? Edwin was the only child of Helen named.

### Thomas P. Mullen

Thomas Patrick Mullen, 81, who was employed 15 years by a transportation service in Chicago before retiring and moving to Phoenix in 1945, died Monday in Sacred Heart Home, 1110 N. 16th St.

Rosary will be recited at 4 p.m. today in the home. Requiem High Mass will be sung in Sacred Heart Home Chapel at 9 a.m. tomorrow. Burial will be in St. Francis Cemetery, Whitney and Murphy Funeral Home announced.

Mr. Mullen, a native of Ireland, is survived by a sister, Sister Mary Kathleen, B.V.M., of Chicago; and a nephew, Edwin Mason of El Monte, Calif.

Oddly the obituary states Thomas migrated from Chicago to Phoenix in 1945? The US Census for 1930 and 1940 Arizona does have a Thomas P. Mullen matching the man in the obituaries full name. The obituary states he worked for 15 years for a Chicago Transportation service. I still think however it's likely to be the same man. So why doesn't the description of Thomas in the obituary match with these men? It could be he spent part of the year when the weather was bad working in Arizona. His work in Chicago might have been seasonal?

The photo of my Great-Grandmother with her sister and an unknown man looks like it may have been taken in the 1950's somewhere in the west I would guess? My Great-Grandmother was in California in the 1950's so it may have been taken there or if Thomas is in the photo the siblings could have had a reunion in Arizona? I'm still trying to find a marked

photo of Thomas. It appears if he did have a wife or children he may have been estranged from them or he married and had no children? It's also possible he never married?

I'm happy with everything I've found even though I haven't confirmed who is in the photo. I feel like I have at least confirmed our Thomas Mullen came to the United States and remained here until his death.

If anyone has any additional information please contact me at [annettekapple@gmail.com](mailto:annettekapple@gmail.com).

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Posted by **Annette** at **9:30 PM**

No comments:



Monday, November 2, 2020

## Searching Irish Election Rolls/ Plus Irish 2019 Election In My Family Area



**Electoral Registers Ireland**



Electoral registers were first introduced in 1832 with the Great Reform Act. The 1850 Reform Act entitled men owning or leasing property valued at £10 to vote. In order to vote in Parliamentary elections those holding leases had to have property valued at £12 a year. Women holding property could vote in local elections, but could not vote in Parliamentary elections. Most Irish men rented property from year to year and didn't meet earlier requirements which required a life lease on property to vote. The Reform Act of 1884 lowered requirements and renters who paid £10 in annual rent, and owners with property valued at £10 could vote. Although the 1884 act expanded the electorate 40% of adult males still couldn't vote.

The 1885-1886 registers are the most inclusive ones available online at [Findmypast.ie](https://findmypast.ie). Registers for the areas of Dublin 1908-1915, and Clare for earlier years are available online at [Findmypast.ie](https://findmypast.ie).

The Co. Clare register for 1860 included the information in the image below.

TULLA POLLING DISTRICT.—BARONY OF UPPER TULLA.—Continued.					
Name and Surname of each Person as the Register is full length	Place of Abode	Nature of Qualification	Amount of Qualification or Rating	Amount of Qualification or Rating	Date of Registry (in cases where party claims under a Disfranchisement Act, 2 & 3 Wm. IV. c. 71.)
66 Cusack, John	Milver	house and land	61 0 0	house and land at Milver and Newgrove	
67 Cusack, James	Milver	house and land	28 10 0	house and land at Milver	
68 Cusack, Patrick	Milver	house and land	21 15 0	house and land at Milver	
69 Cusack, Ryan	Derrygore west	house and land	29 4 0	house and land at Derrygore west	
70 Cusack, Michael	Derrygore	house and land	61 10 0	house and land at Derrygore west	
71 Cusack, John	Derrygore west	house and land	36 0 0	house and land at Derrygore west	
72 Cusack, John James	Derrygore west	house and land	19 0 0	house and land at Derrygore west	
73 Cusack, Thomas	Derrygore west	house and land	14 15 0	house and land at Derrygore west	
74 Cusack, Michael	Garrara	house and land	15 12 0	house and land at Garrara	
75 Cusack, John	Garrara	house and land	27 0 0	house and land at Garrara	
76 Cusack, Patrick	Garrara	house and land	28 15 0	house and land at Garrara	
77 Cusack, Michael	Garrara	house and land	21 0 0	house and land at Garrara	
78 Cusack, John	Garrara	house and land	12 0 0	house and land at Garrara	
79 Cusack, David	Garrara	house and land	15 12 0	house and land at Garrara	
80 Cusack, John	Falvey	house and land	10 10 0	house and land at Falvey	
81 Cusack, Patrick	Tynagh upper	house and land	12 15 0	house and land at Tynagh upper	
82 Cusack, Patrick	Chesham	house and land	27 15 0	house and land at Chesham and Tynagh upper	

The coverage of the 1885-1886 registers are listed as follows at [Findmypast.ie](https://findmypast.ie) (they are the ones held by the British Library).

▼ Coverage

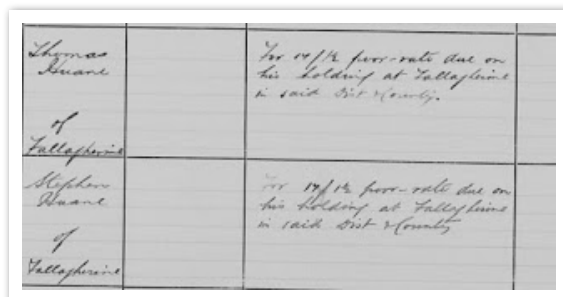
The few registers held by the British Library are listed below:

- County Armagh – Mid Division, North Division and South Division
- County Down – Newry
- County Fermanagh – North Division and South Division
- County Kildare – North Division and South Division
- County Limerick – Limerick City
- County Mayo – East Division, North Division, South Division and West Division
- County Meath – North Division and South Division
- County Roscommon – North Division and South Division
- County Tyrone – East Division, Mid Division, North Division and South Division
- County Westmeath – North Division and South Division
- County Wexford – North Division and South Division
- County Wicklow – East Division and West Division

I found one ancestor on these voting registers. Thomas Huane of Fallakeeran, Co. Mayo, Ireland was on the rolls for 1885-1886. He was listed as a lessor on a house and garden on Griffith's Valuation in 1856. He was also listed as a renter of a house and land in 1856. It's nice to know the Huanes weren't destitute, and met the qualifications to vote in 1884. Unfortunately there are no rolls for Galway online so I could not find my Mullen family.

199	Huane, Stephen	...	Creeveeshell
200	Huane, Thomas	...	Fallakeeran
201	Huane, Stephen	...	Fallakeeran
202	Huane, James	...	Levallyroe
203	Huane, James	...	Shanvallyboght
204	Huane, John	...	Treeannaskehy
205	Hughes, Thomas William	..	Curraghadooey

The sons of Thomas Huane/Huvane didn't pay the Poor Rate on their property in Fallakeeran in 1909 when they appeared in petty sessions court in Ballindine. In order to vote rates had to be paid; so Thomas Jr. and Stephen likely were barred from voting.



As the years passed the electorate kept expanding until it included all adult men and women.

## 2019 Visit During Election

I visited Ireland in 2019 when they were having an important election which also addressed divorce laws along with electing officials.



When I travel I love observing the local cultures and traditions. In Ireland campaign ads are banned from TV. This seems to create more traditional style campaigns where those running meet with voters. This style of voting is outline by Hugh Linehan in an NPR interview. He is a host of the *Irish Times* Inside Politics podcast. "LINEHAN: You're quite right. It is a small country of about 4.8 million people, so it's about the population of Alabama. And it's a very kind of a gregarious, you know, intimate kind of a country. We don't have six degrees of separation. You'd be lucky to get two degrees of separation. You know, a very common opening line in a conversation is, oh, I used to know your mother, you know? So everybody knows their politicians very often. You know, I've met all my local politicians and not just because I'm a journalist. Everybody's kind of had a personal contact with people. So the doorstep - showing up on the doorstep and saying hello to people is important. Every day this

week when I'm cooking the dinner, my doorbell has rung and there's been a politician on the doorstep asking for my vote."

Here we see some of the political campaigners sitting on the trunk of a car outside a voting location in my ancestral area of Tuam in 2019. Election day seems to have a jovial celebratory feel in Ireland. You can sit outside the polling place and have a few drinks after the hard fought election is over.



How do you get voters' attention without TV ads? You can use loudspeakers mounted on cars and signs on cars.



Signs are important too. Signs are mounted on poles, fences, and lawns everywhere during elections.







As in the United States polling places are often in schools as this one was in 2019 Tuam.



There is one main highway in Tuam which meant there was a traffic jam on election day 2019.



The winners of races in Ireland put thank you signs on their signs after winning the election.



Dublin signs are often placed high on poles; likely for visibility and to avoid sign theft.



The old electoral rolls can add to our knowledge of our ancestors. I learned that my ancestor Thomas Huane met the qualifications to vote and therefore was in a better financial position than 40% of the male population over 21. With so many records lost any additional information is appreciated including the electoral registers.

(PS: The divorce laws were loosened as a result of the 2019 election).

Posted by [Annette](#) at [3:30 PM](#) No comments: 

Monday, October 26, 2020

## My Grandmother's Halloween Costume/ The Attempted Murder of Julia Kurta

### Grandmother's Halloween Costume

In the 1930's some of my maternal Forgey family neighbors belonged to a conservative religious sect that didn't believe in many celebrations such as Halloween. They also were against people going to the movies or stage shows even. They weren't used to seeing people

dressed in Halloween costumes either. When my Grandmother Graciela Del Castillo-Forgey dressed up for a Halloween party she decided to show one of the neighbors her costume, unfortunately, it shocked this female neighbor. The poor neighbor nearly fainted she was so shocked, my mother told me. My mother said the blood drained out of her face.

My Grandmother was dressed in a wedding outfit which was out of style by the 1930's. So it wasn't particularly scary. Not like some sort of costume with blood dripping or something really scary. I'm not sure if a religious sentiment caused the shock or this neighbor recalled an earlier time and thought my grandmother was a ghost? People in this era also might be influenced by the spiritualism that was very popular in the previous decade of the 1920's. They believed it was possible ghostly apparitions could appear.

I love this photo of my grandmother wearing her costume. I love that she enjoyed participating in holiday celebrations. The story about the neighbor adds interest to the photo for me.



### **The Scary Kurta Story**

According to the spiritualists of the 1920's unquiet dead may comeback to haunt us later. The sad deaths and an attempted murder of my Great-Great Aunt Julia Kurta may have produced unquiet spirits, who knows?

Below I outline the events leading to the attempted murder of my Great-Great Aunt Julia Kurta.

The story starts with the marriage of my Great-Great Aunt Julia Kurta the photo below is likely the wedding photo of Julia and her husband Andrew Deutsch although, I haven't been able to confirm it? They married in 1902 in Allentown, Pennsylvania.

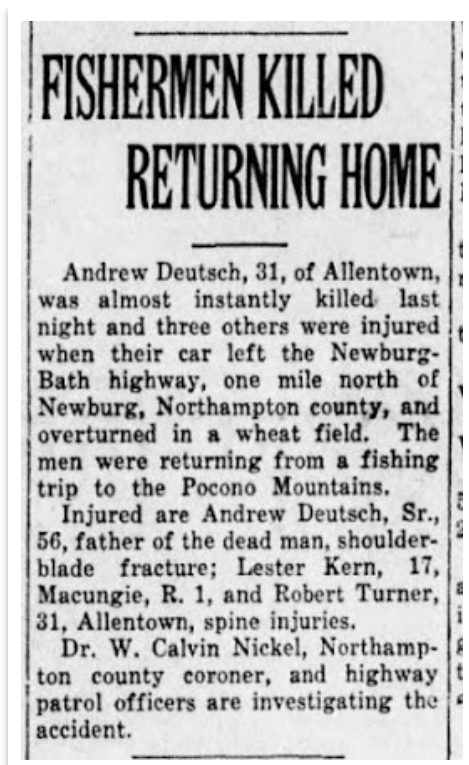




The birth of several children followed in the proceeding years. Andrew Deutsch Jr. was born 23 May 1905 in Pennsylvania. He married Margaret C. Moser in 1928. I'm not sure if the wedding photo below is of them or another of the Deutsch/Kurta children?



Sadly a happy fishing trip in 1937 taken with his father Andrew Deutsch Sr., and others, ended in a tragic car accident which resulted in the death of Andrew Jr. and the serious injury of Andrew Sr.. This newspaper article from the April 16, 1937 Standard Sentinel, morning edition, outlines exactly what happened.



Andrew Deutsch's death certificate states he died of a fractured skull. Another local newspaper states he went through the roof of the car which apparently led to his skull fracture. According to the death certificate Andrew Jr. was employed by the Pepsi-Cola bottling company at the time of his early death.

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS  
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

FILE NO. 45-5822  
REGISTRATION NO. 44532  
FILE NO. 276

1. PLACE OF DEATH  
County: Lehigh  
City: Allentown

2. DECEASED  
Name: Andrew P. Deutsch  
Sex: Male  
Race: White  
Date of Birth: May 23, 1906  
Age: 31 years, 10 months, 28 days  
Usual Residence: Allentown, Pa.  
Occupation: Machine Operator  
Cause of Death: Fractured Skull  
Manner of Death: Accident

3. FULL NAME (Given or Surname)  
Andrew P. Deutsch  
Residence: 622 E. Front St., Allentown, Pa.

4. DATE OF BIRTH (Month, day and year)  
May 23, 1906

5. SEX  
Male

6. RACE  
White

7. MARRIAGE  
Married

8. DATE OF MARRIAGE (Month, day and year)  
May 23, 1906

9. NAME OF SPOUSE  
Margaret Joseph

10. PLACE OF BIRTH (Country, State and County)  
Allentown, Pa.

11. NAME OF SPOUSE  
Margaret Joseph

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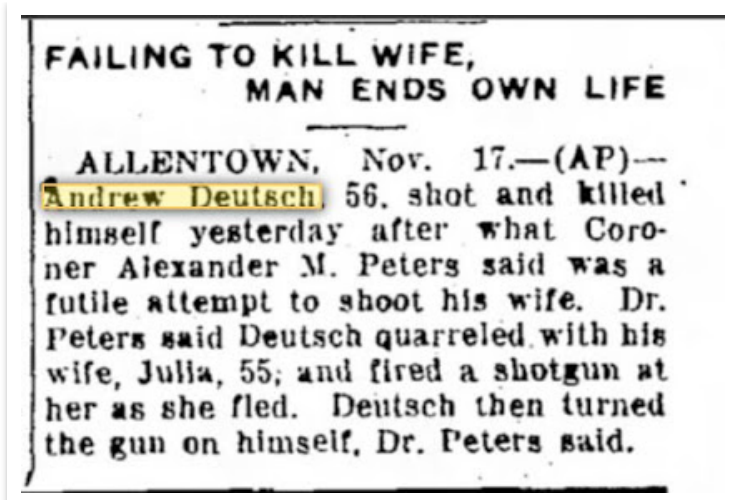
98. NAME OF SPOUSE  
Margaret Joseph

99. NAME OF SPOUSE  
Margaret Joseph

100. NAME OF SPOUSE  
Margaret Joseph

The death of his son, and possibly his own injuries, may have led to Andrew Deutsch Sr.'s mental deterioration? Although years earlier Andrew Sr. was a defendant in a case concerning assault, I have not found him in court records in any other cases.

Months after the tragic fishing trip in November 1937 Andrew Deutsch Sr. went on a hunting trip and on his return he quarreled with his wife, my Great-Great Aunt Julia nee Kurta. He evidently was so enraged he got his shotgun and took some shots at her from the front porch of their house as she fled, according to one account. She was struck in the leg and hip by bullets.



According to another newspaper account he then went up to the 3rd floor of the house and shot himself in the head. His death certificate states the cause of death was suicide.

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS		MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
<p>1. Residence: <u>Allentown</u></p> <p>2. FULL NAME (type or print): <u>Andrew Deutsch</u></p> <p>Residence No. <u>222 N. Front</u></p> <p>3. SEX: <u>M</u></p> <p>4. COLOR OR RACE: <u>W.</u></p> <p>5. If married, widowed, or divorced: <u>Married</u></p> <p>6. DATE OF BIRTH (month, day, and year): <u>July 7 - 1891</u></p> <p>7. AGE: <u>56</u> years <u>4</u> months <u>9</u> days</p> <p>8. Trade, profession, or particular kind of work done, as spinner, surveyor, bookkeeper, etc.: <u>Retired (Barber)</u></p> <p>9. Industry or business in which work was done, as mill, mine, cannery, bank, etc.: <u>None</u></p> <p>10. Date deceased last worked at this occupation (month and year): <u>1922</u></p> <p>11. Total time (years) spent in this occupation: <u>1 yr.</u></p> <p>12. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or Country): <u>Austria</u></p> <p>13. NAME: <u>Andrew Deutsch</u></p> <p>14. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or Country): <u>Austria</u></p> <p>15. MAIDEN NAME: <u>Brown</u></p> <p>16. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) (State or Country): <u>Yeast</u></p> <p>17. SIGNATURE (name and address) OF INFORMANT: <u>James Deutsch</u></p> <p>18. BURIAL, CREMATION, OR REMOVAL: <u>Nov 18 1937</u></p>		<p>19. DATE OF DEATH (month, day, and year): <u>Nov 16 1937</u></p> <p>20. I HEREBY CERTIFY, that on personal examination and on the basis of the above named deceased on the <u>16</u> day of <u>Nov</u> 1937, that the jury rendered a verdict giving the cause of death as follows:</p> <p>The principal cause of death and related causes of importance were as follows:</p> <p><u>Guns shot Wound of Head, Single barrel shot 44, 12 gauge</u></p> <p>Other contributory causes of importance: <u>167</u></p> <p>Name of physician: <u>None</u> Date of: <u>Nov 16 1937</u></p> <p>What test confirmed diagnosis? <u>Biopsy</u> Was there an autopsy? <u>No</u></p> <p>21. If death was due to external causes (Violence), fill in also the following: Accident, suicide, or homicide? <u>Suicide</u> Date of injury: <u>11/16, 1937</u></p> <p>Where did injury occur? <u>Allentown Pa</u> (Specify city or town, county, and State)</p> <p>Specify whether injury occurred in industry, in home, or in public place: <u>At Home</u></p> <p>Manner of injury: <u>Shooting</u></p>	

This is a photo of the Andrew Deutsch Sr. and Julia Kurta attached house. I circled the 3rd floor windows where the suicide occurred. We can imagine, with the houses so close together, the neighbors heard everything and must have been shocked. I can just picture Andrew Sr. standing on the front porch while Julia escaped.



I don't know if the previous injuries Andrew Sr. sustained or the death of his son led to this deranged behavior or he was just hot tempered? Another account of these events said Andrew Sr. had been drinking, which also likely contributed to his attack on his wife. The tragic deaths in this family might lead those who believe in ghosts to speculate that the spirits of this family remain wandering the earth unable to rest, or they haunt the family house. Maybe? Julia didn't stick around to find out. She moved in with her brother Joseph Kurta and his family.

My Great-Great Aunt Julia Kurta-Deutsch went on to live a long life dying 2 Feb 1973. She lived to be 89 years old. At least her life appeared to have a happy ending.

**Happy Halloween!**





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Posted by [Annette](#) at [1:33 PM](#)

No comments: 

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

## US Alien Registration Files/What did I find in my Great-Great Aunt's file?



My Great-Great Aunt Bridget Mullen was born in February 1888 in Milltown, Co. Galway, Ireland. I knew she had immigrated to the United States like her sister my Great-Grandmother Helen Mullen-Mason. I didn't know when but did find a Bridget Mullen born about 1888 from Milltown on a passenger list for the ship S. S. Teutonic in 1907. My great-grandmother was already here and was married with a daughter. I also found what I thought could be her on the 1910 US Census for Chicago. Bridget didn't marry but instead she became a Nun about 1911. She took the name Sister Mary Kathleen when she joined the convent.

My father enjoyed visiting with her, but I had never met her even though she lived until the age of 103. She had lived in both Chicago, Illinois and Davenport, Iowa and I hadn't visited either of those places until recently. I live in Southern California and didn't have the time to make the trip to ancestral areas until recently.

An uncle and cousin were nice to share some digitized photos with me. There were unmarked photos included in these photos. I've been using naturalization and other immigrant files to help identify people in the unmarked photos.

I assumed a nun in many of the photos was Sister Mary Kathleen Mullen. A man with Sister Mary Kathleen and my Great-Grandmother Helen was a mystery to me? Who is he? Could it have been her brother Thomas? Did Thomas come to America? I didn't know.

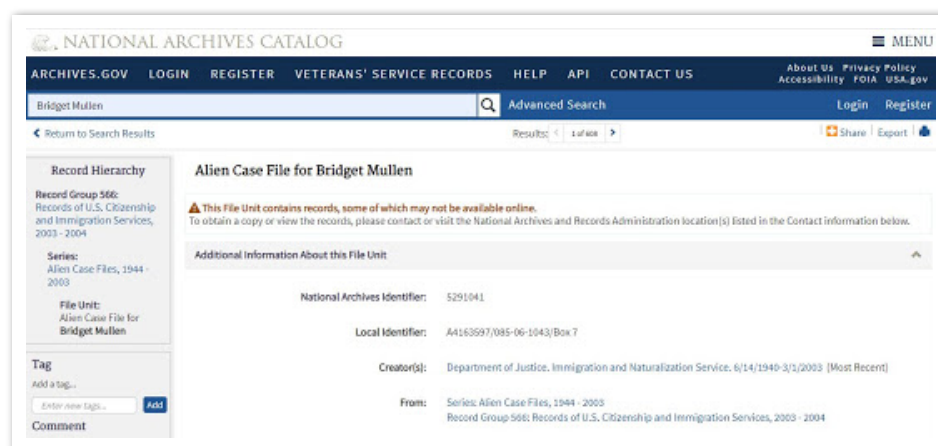


According to available census records for Sister Mary Kathleen she hadn't naturalized as of 1940. I searched for a naturalization record in the places she lived but never found one. My father said a relative was naturalized through an act of congress. I wondered if she was?

Since I didn't find any naturalization for her I've been searching for another record collection that might answer my questions about her. Alien files were created for US residents who weren't citizens in the 1940's. Aliens were required to register with the government. The registration documents were kept in the files along with all interactions the alien had with the INS.

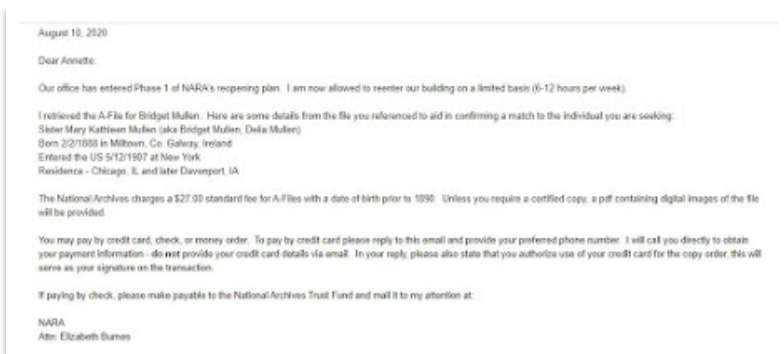
This is a great video about Alien Files: [TMCC Genealogy - Alien Registration Files](#)

When I learned about the Alien Files (aka A-Files) I searched for a record for Sister Mary Kathleen (you can read more about alien files [here](#)). There is an index for these files on the National Archives Catalog and at Ancestry.com. I didn't find one under that name but did find one under the name Bridget Mullen, her birth name. The birth year a date for this Bridget were corrected so I figured that was her, but I wasn't completely sure.



I decided to contact the [National Archives in Kansas](#) to ask about the file and cost of getting a copy. They confirmed it was the correct file. I then ordered a copy. The cost was \$27, it would have cost me \$65 if I ordered it from the [US Citizenship and Immigration Services \(USCIS\)](#). The archivist who responded to my request was very nice and quickly made copies of the information and sent them to me. I wasn't expecting that as the staff was only allowed in the offices for a limited amount of time because of the COVID pandemic.

Email from archive:



## What was I hoping to find?

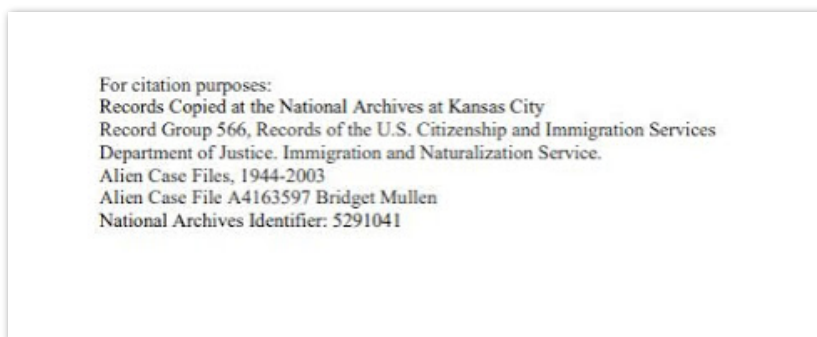
What did I hope to find in the file? I hoped to confirm that the photos were of her because a photo was required for the Alien Registration cards. I wanted to confirm I had the correct passenger list for her. I wanted to know whether she ever naturalized and how? I also didn't have any documents where my Irish immigrant family identified their parents and place of birth and hoped that information would be on these documents. I was hoping other relatives who immigrated to America may show up on these documents.

## What I received

I received 25 pages of documents and photos.

### Page 1

Was just a citation for the source of the information at the National Archives Kansas.



### Page 2

This page immediately confirmed that Sister Mary Kathleen Mullen did naturalize because this is her naturalization certificate. The photo was a duplicate of one I received from my uncle and cousin. Two questions already answered.

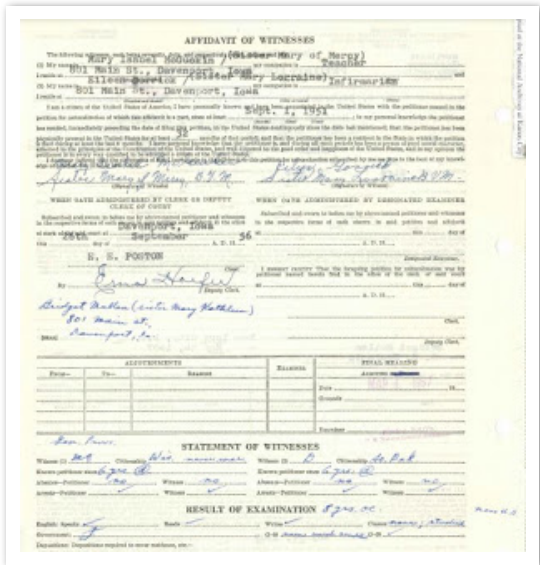






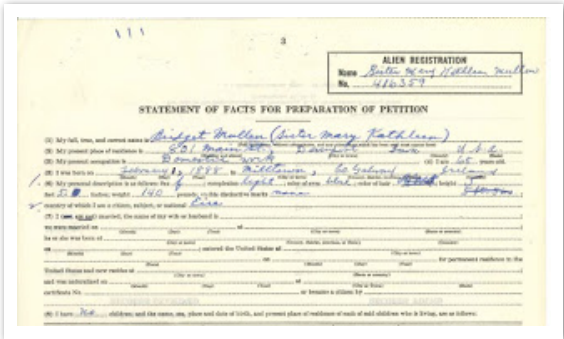
**Page 5**

This page was the witnesses affidavit for naturalization. I was hoping the witnesses would include a relative. No, her witnesses were also Nuns.



**Page 6**

This page contained a document called Statement of Facts for Preparation of Petition. It basically contained the same information the petition did. I hadn't found this document before in my other immigrant ancestors files.



**Page 7**

This page was the 2nd page of the document Statement of Facts for Preparation of Petition. This is what I was hoping for not only was her place of birth confirmed again but her parents names were listed. Now I have a document Mary Kathleen provided information for that states who her parents were.

Page 8

This document was called Application to File a Petition for Naturalization. This gave the name of her employer which was Immaculate Conception Academy, Iowa.

Page 9

This document was the 2nd page of the Application to File a Petition for Naturalization. Mainly check boxes. I guess nuns weren't required to pay income tax.

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## Page 10

This is a Certificate of Admission card which was produced to officially verify Mary Kathleen's arrival information. I believe the cousin listed as a person she was going to meet's name was actually a cousin named Martin Jennings not Timmins.

M-450		AGE 20		SEX F	MARRIED S	OCCUPATION SERVANT.
NAME MULLEN, BRIDGET		PORT OF ENTRY NEW YORK, N.Y.		MANIFEST NO. 23-142-2028		CITIZEN OF BRITISH
DATE 5-24-1907		MANNER SS. TEUTONIC		VISA OR PERMIT NO. -	SECTION -	PLACE AND DATE OF ISSUE -
OFFICE REQUESTING VERIFICATION: OMAHA, NEBRASKA.		CERTIFICATE OF ADMISSION OF ALIEN		LEAST PERMANENT RESIDENCE: Co. GALWAY, IRELAND.		
FILE NO. A 4 163 597 FORM N-400 6-19-1956		DESTINATION CHICAGO, ILL.		HEAD TAX STATUS PAID		
IN U.S. BEFORE		WHEN		WHERE		
No		-		-		
NAME AND COMPLETE ADDRESS OF PERSON TO WHOM DESTINED		COUSIN: MARTIN TIMMINS,				
		196 WELLS STR., CHICAGO, ILL.				
PURPOSE IN COMING AND LENGTH OF INTENDED STAY.		PERM. RES.				
HEIGHT 5'5" COMPLEXION FR HAIR DRK EYES BLUE DISTINGUISHING MARKS NONE		ACCOMPANIED BY -				
PA:JJR		SIGNATURE				
TITLE		1024				

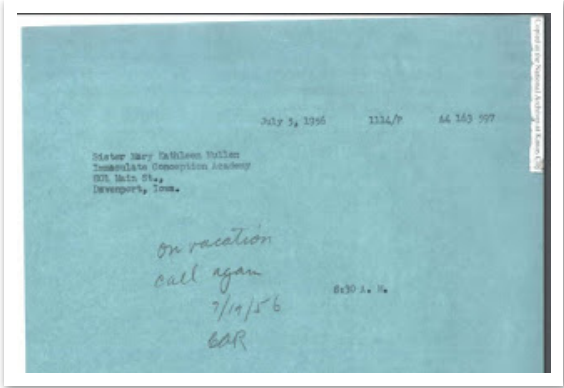
## Page 11

A cover page for a call for an interview.

Sister Mary Kathleen Mullen Immaculate Conception Academy 501 East Street Davenport, Iowa		4 163 597	
		8:30 A. M.	

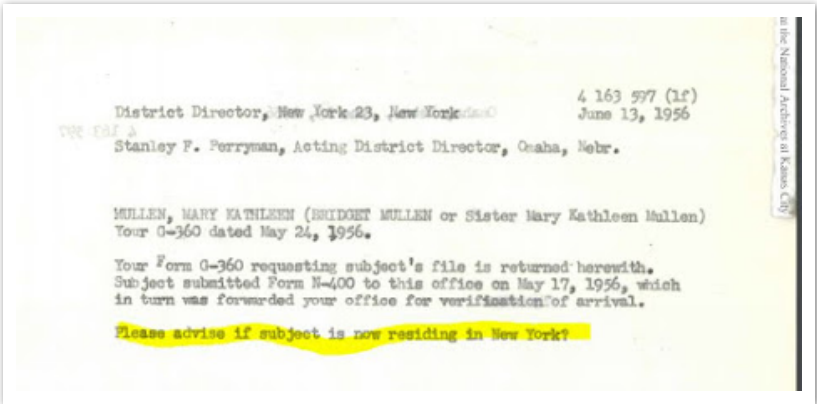
## Page 12

A page with a notation regarding a call either in person or on the phone likely to ask her questions about her filing for naturalization. It said they called on her and she wasn't home. She was on vacation on that day in 1956. I wondered if she came out west to California to visit her sister, my Great-Grandmother Helen, who had relocated to California with her family in the 1940's? I wondered if that was when the photo was taken I'm trying to identify the unknown man in?



**Page 13**

A cover message letter the request for information on Sister Mary Kathleen's arrival information at Ellis Island. Oddly they asked if she still lived in New York but she never lived there. She came and joined her family who had settled early in Chicago.



**Page 14**

Just contained page 2 of the above letter with a typed date and nothing else.

**Page 15**

A document from the INS requesting information from the FBI regarding Sister Mary Kathleen.

Agency Name Check Rev. 8-9-55		UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Immigration and Naturalization Service		File No. 4 163 997 Date May 18, 1956	
District Omaha, Nebraska Sub-Office		DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, Washington 25, D.C.			
Attention: IDENTIFICATION DIVISION					
Please furnish a copy of any criminal record shown in the fingerprint records of your Bureau concerning the following person, whose fingerprints are (not) attached:					
NAME (Surname in CAPS, first, middle) SISTER MARY KATHLEEN MULLEN		DATE OF BIRTH Feb. 1888		SEX female	COLOR white
PLACE OF BIRTH (City, province or state & country) Ireland		PRESENT NATIONALITY British		MARITAL STATUS S <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/>	
ALIASES (Identify maiden names or nicknames)		PARENTS' NAMES (Include present address, if known)			
HEIGHT 5'10"	WEIGHT 140	EYES blue	HAIR brown	COMPLEXION med.	
RESIDENCE LAST FIVE YEARS (Street & hkn, apt. etc. City, state and country) Sisters of Charity, 801 Main Street, Davenport, Iowa		IDENTIFYING MARKS OR SCARS			
EMPLOYMENT LAST FIVE YEARS (Employer's name and address) Same as above		OCCUPATION OR PROFESSION		FROM TO	
PRIOR OCCUPATIONS (Not included in above)		DATE OF BIRTH Feb. 1888		PLACE OF BIRTH Ireland	
SPOUSE (Full name & other names used, & present address, if not now in U.S.) None		DATE OF BIRTH Feb. 1888		PLACE OF BIRTH Ireland	





Form G-135  
Agency Name Check  
Rev. 8-9-55

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
Immigration and Naturalization Service

File No. 4 163 597  
Date May 18, 1956

Divert Omaha, Nebraska  
Sub-Office

DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Attention: INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

Please furnish any derogatory information contained in any file — other than fingerprint records — which your Bureau may have concerning the following person:

NAME (Surname in CAPS, First, Middle) <b>SISTER MARY KATHLEEN MULLEN</b>		DATE OF BIRTH <b>Feb. 1898</b>	SEX <b>Female</b>	COLOR <b>White</b>	MARITAL STATUS <b>Single</b>
PLACE OF BIRTH (City, province or state & country) <b>Ireland</b>		PRESENT NATIONALITY <b>Irish</b>			
ALIASES (Identify maiden name or nickname)		PARENTS' NAMES (Include present address, if known)			
HEIGHT <b>5'5"</b>	WEIGHT <b>140</b>	EYES <b>blue</b>	HAIR <b>brown</b>	COMPLEXION <b>red</b>	IDENTIFYING MARKS OR SCARS
RESIDENCE LAST FIVE YEARS (Street & No., RFD, etc. City, state and country) <b>Sisters of Charity, 801 Main Street, Davenport, Iowa</b>		FROM <b>1950</b>	TO <b>present</b>		
EMPLOYMENT LAST FIVE YEARS (Employer's name and address)		OCCUPATION OR PROFESSION		FROM	TO

No Investigation Conducted by FBI  
Pertinent to your inquiry.  
This is the result of a request for  
FBI file check only and is not to be  
considered as a clearance.

DATE OF BIRTH  
**Feb. 1898**

PLACE OF BIRTH (City, province or state & country)  
**Ireland**

ENTRIES AND DEPARTURES (Dates and ports)

Page 19

Another document regarding the request for arrival information for Sister Mary Kathleen.

Rev. 8-9-55

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
Immigration and Naturalization Service

File No. 4 163 597  
Date May 18, 1956

Divert Omaha, Nebraska  
Sub-Office

DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Attention: INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

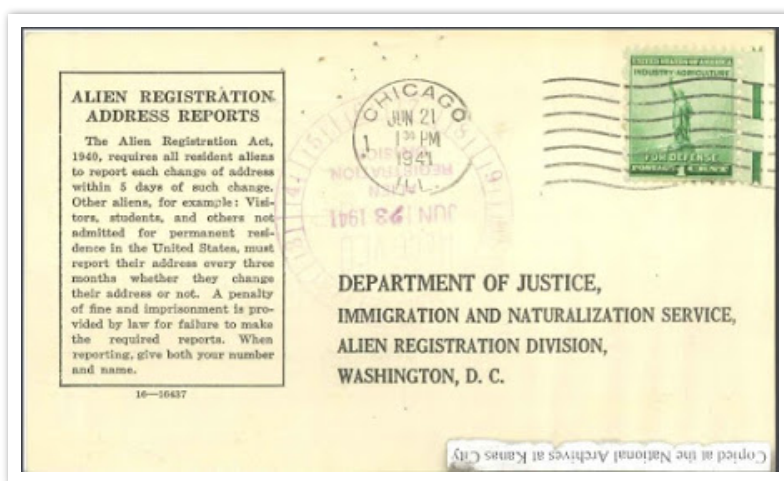
Please furnish any derogatory information contained in any file — other than fingerprint records — which your Bureau may have concerning the following person:

NAME (Surname in CAPS, First, Middle) <b>SISTER MARY KATHLEEN MULLEN</b>		DATE OF BIRTH <b>Feb. 1898</b>	SEX <b>Female</b>	COLOR <b>White</b>	MARITAL STATUS <b>Single</b>
PLACE OF BIRTH (City, province or state & country) <b>Ireland</b>		PRESENT NATIONALITY <b>Irish</b>			
ALIASES (Identify maiden name or nickname)		PARENTS' NAMES (Include present address, if known)			
HEIGHT <b>5'5"</b>	WEIGHT <b>140</b>	EYES <b>blue</b>	HAIR <b>brown</b>	COMPLEXION <b>red</b>	IDENTIFYING MARKS OR SCARS
RESIDENCE LAST FIVE YEARS (Street & No., RFD, etc. City, state and country) <b>Sisters of Charity, 801 Main Street, Davenport, Iowa</b>		FROM <b>1950</b>	TO <b>present</b>		
EMPLOYMENT LAST FIVE YEARS (Employer's name and address) <b>Same as above</b>		OCCUPATION OR PROFESSION		FROM	TO
PRIOR OCCUPATIONS (Not included in above)		DATE OF BIRTH			
SPOUSE (Full name & other names used, & present address, if not same as above)		PLACE OF BIRTH (City, province or state & country)			
ORGANIZATIONS (Include any societies, clubs, etc., with which now or previously affiliated)					
LAST ADMISSION TO U.S. (Date, port and status) <b>New York May 18, 1956</b>		PRIOR ENTRIES AND DEPARTURES (Dates and ports)			
PREVIOUS NUMBERS ASSIGNED (SHIP, S/N, passport, social security, FBI, etc., identify each)		IF previous entries were made in U.S.			

Page 20

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Now finally an Alien Registration document. This was the postcard all non US Citizens were required to return in the early 1940's. The postmark is dated June 21st 1941. It's postmarked Chicago. Sister Mary Kathleen divided her time between Chicago where her sister and her sister's family lived, and where her order's mother house was located in Iowa.



## Page 21

The opposite side of the postcard with the form information.

Copied at the National Archives at Kansas City

Form AR-11

**ADDRESS REPORT CARD—ALIEN REGISTRATION**

(This card may be used for both types of reports mentioned on the face of this card)

Registration No. 4163597

Name (print or type) Sister Mary Kathleen Mullen

My last address was 819 Sedgwick St. Chicago, Ill.

My present address is St. Joseph Convent Mount Carmel, Dubuque, Iowa.

Date June 21, 1941 Signature Sister Mary Kathleen Mullen

16-15437 GPO

## Page 22

A longer Alien Registration form filled out in 1940. It contains much of the same information as found on Sister Mary Kathleen petition for naturalization.

Form 450-0  
OFFICE USE

4103537

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE

ALIEN REGISTRATION FORM

1. (a) My name is Sister Mary Kathleen Mullen  
(b) I entered the United States under the name of Bridget Mullen  
(c) I have also been known by the following names:  
(Include maiden name if a married woman, professional names, nicknames, and aliases)  
Delia Mullen

2. (a) I live at 819 Sedgwick St., Chicago, Cook, Illinois  
(b) My post-office address is same  
(c) My date of birth is February 2, 1898  
(d) I was born in Williamstown Co. Galway Ireland

3. I am a citizen or subject of none--last of Ireland

4. (a) I am a (check one):  
Male ☐ Female ☒  
(b) My race is (check one): White ☒ Negro ☐ Japanese ☐ Chinese ☐ Other ☐  
I am 5 feet 8 inches in height, weigh 135 pounds, have black hair and blue eyes.

5. (a) I last arrived in the United States at New York Harbor on May 12, 1907  
(b) I came to by S.S. unknown--White Star Line  
(c) I came as a (check one): Passenger ☒ Crew member ☐ Seaman ☐ Other ☐  
(d) I entered the United States as a (check one): Permanent resident ☒ Visitor ☐ Student ☐ Young merchant ☐ Seaman ☐ Official of a foreign government ☐ Employee of a foreign government official ☐ Other ☐

6. (a) I first arrived in the United States on May 12, 1907  
(b) I have lived in the United States a total of thirty three years  
(c) I expect to remain in the United States permanently

7. (a) My usual occupation is housekeeper (b) My present occupation is housekeeper  
(c) My employer (or engineering parent or guardian) is St. Dominic's Convent  
where address is 819 Sedgwick St., Chicago, Illinois  
and where business is Religious

All lines must be answered by persons 16 years of age or older. The children under 16 years of age, with the lines marked with a star (\*) must be answered for the parent or guardian. All answers must be correctly and completely.

## Page 23

This is page 2 of the Alien Registration long form. It confirms that Sister Mary Kathleen became a nun about 1911. It also has another of her fingerprints. I now have the first set of fingerprints of a relative.

14. I am, or have been, within the past 5 years, or intend to be engaged in the following activities:  
In addition to other information, for membership or activities in clubs, organizations or societies  
Member of Church of the Sacred Virgin Mary about 1911 to present time

15. My military or naval service has been none

16. (a) I have not applied for citizenship papers in the United States. Date of application none  
(b) First citizenship papers received none  
(c) First petition for naturalization none

17. (a) I have the following specified relatives living in the United States:  
Parent(s) none Married or with none Child(ren) none  
(b) I have not been arrested or indicted for, or convicted of any offense (or offenses). These offenses are:  
Nature of offense none Date of arrest none Place of arrest none Disposition of case none

18. Within the past 5 years I have not been affiliated with or active in the membership, official or a similar but organization, devoted to efforts to aid in influencing or forwarding the political activities, public relations, or public policy of a foreign government.

ATTESTATION FOR PERSONS 14 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER

I have read or have had read to me the above statements, and to hereby swear (or affirm) that these statements are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Subscribed and sworn to in the above statement, and on the date here designated by the official post-office stamp at the right.

Sister Mary Kathleen Mullen Edward J. Kernal

ATTESTATION FOR PARENT OR GUARDIAN ONLY

I am the parent of the alien named Sister Mary Kathleen Mullen and have made the above statements for him (or her). I have read or have had the same read to me, and do hereby swear (or affirm) that these are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Subscribed and sworn to in the above statement, and on the date here designated by the official post-office stamp at the right.

There was a question about family members living in the United States but unfortunately it only referred to immediate family, and didn't provide any spaces to write the names of family members.



13. ☆ I have the following specified relatives living in the United States:

Parent(s) <u>none</u> <small>(NONE, OR ONE, OR BOTH)</small>	Husband or wife <u>no</u> <small>(YES OR NO)</small>	Children <u>none</u> <small>(NUMBER)</small>
---	---	---

14. I have not been arrested or indicted for, or convicted of any offense (or offenses). These offenses are:  
(GLASS, HAVE NOT)

<i>Nature of offense</i>	<i>Date of arrest</i>	<i>Place of arrest</i>	<i>Disposition of case</i>
_____	_____	_____	_____

### Pages 24 and 25

These pages are just two identical photos of sister Mary Kathleen Mullen for her Alien Registration.



These documents did answer many of my questions and confirmed some of my speculations. I had believed that Sister Mary Kathleen's brother Thomas also came to America. I was hoping to find his name in these documents to confirm that. I've been wondering if Thomas was the unknown man posing with his sisters in the photo I've been trying to identify the people in. The little girl in the photo is also unidentified. I will blog about what I've learned subsequently in a later post.

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Posted by [Annette](#) at [12:18 PM](#)

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